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*An Introduction to the Political State of Great-Britain.*



AS it is intended to exhibit in the following pamphlet an accurate account of every political debate, it appears necessary to lay before the reader a succinct account of *British* affairs, from the time in which our present relations to the continent began, and the competitions which keep us at variance with our neighbours arose. Without this previous knowledge, either recollected or acquired, it is not easy to understand the various opinions which every change in our affairs produces, or the questions which divide the nation into parties, and cause divisions in the parliament, and wars among the pamphleteers.

THE present system of *English* politics may properly be said to have taken rise in the reign of queen *Elizabeth*. At this time the protestant religion was established, which naturally allied us to the reformed state, and made all the popish powers our enemies.

We began in the same reign to extend our trade, by which we made it necessary to ourselves to watch the commercial progress of our neighbours; and, if not to incommode and obstruct their traffick, to hinder them from impairing ours.

We then likewise settled colonies in *America*, which was become the great scene of *European* ambition; for, seeing with what treasures the *Spaniards* were annually enriched from *Mexico* and *Peru*, every nation imagined, that an *American* conquest or plantation

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would certainly fill the mother country with gold and silver. This produced a large extent of very distant dominions, of which we, at this time, neither knew nor foresaw the advantage or incumbrance: We seem to have snatched them into our hands, upon no very just principles of policy, only because every state, according to a prejudice of long continuance, concludes itself more powerful as its territories become larger.

The discoveries of new regions, which were then every day made, the profit of remote traffick, and the necessity of long voyages, produced, in a few years, a great multiplication of shipping. The sea was considered as the wealthy element; and, by degrees, a new kind of sovereignty arose, called naval dominion.

As the chief trade of the world, so the chief maritime power was at first in the hands of the *Portuguese* and *Spaniards*, who, by a compact, to which the consent of other princes was not asked, had divided the newly discovered countries between them; but the crown of *Portugal* having fallen to the king of *Spain*, or being seized by him, he was master of the ships of the two nations, with which he kept all the coasts of *Europe* in alarm, till the *Armada*, which he had raised at a vast expence for the conquest of *England*, was destroyed, which put a stop, and almost an end, to the naval power of the *Spaniards*.

At this time the *Dutch*, who were oppressed by the *Spaniards*, and feared yet greater evils than they felt, resolved no longer to endure the insolence of their masters: they therefore revolted, and

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and after a struggle, in which they were assisted by the money and forces of *Elizabeth*, erected an independent and powerful commonwealth.

When the inhabitants of the Low-Countries had formed their system of government, and some remission of the war gave them leisure to form schemes of future prosperity, they easily perceived that, as their territories were narrow and their numbers small, they could preserve themselves only by that power which is the consequence of wealth; and that, by a people whose country produced only the necessaries of life, wealth was not to be acquired, but from foreign dominions, and by the transportation of the products of one country into another.

From this necessity, thus justly estimated, arose a plan of commerce, which was for many years prosecuted with industry and success, perhaps never seen in the world before, and by which the poor tenants of mudwalled villages and impassable bogs, erected themselves into high and mighty states, who put the greatest monarchs at defiance, whose alliance was courted by the proudest, and whose power was dreaded by the fiercest nation. By the establishment of this state there arose to *England* a new ally and a new rival.

At this time, which seems to be the period destined for the change of the face of *Europe*, *France* began first to rise into power, and, from defending her own provinces with difficulty and fluctuating success, to threaten her neighbours with incroachments and devastations. *Henry* the fourth having, after a long struggle, obtained the crown, found it easy to govern nobles exhausted and wearied with a long civil war, and having composed the disputes between the protestants and papists, so as to obtain, at least, a truce for both parties, was at leisure to accumulate treasure, and raise forces which he purposed to have employed in a design of settling for ever the balance of *Europe*. Of this great scheme he lived not to see the vanity, or to feel the disappointment; for he was murdered in the midst of his mighty preparations.

The *French* however were in this reign taught to know their own power; and the great designs of a king, whose wisdom they had so long experienced, even though they were not brought to actual experiment, disposed them to consider themselves as masters of the destiny of

their neighbours; and, from that time, he that shall nicely examine their schemes and conduct will, I believe, find that they began to take an air of superiority, to which they had never pretended before; and that they have been always employed, more or less openly upon schemes of dominion, though with frequent interruptions from domestic troubles, and with those intermissions which human counsels must always suffer, as men intrusted with great affairs are dissipated in youth, and languid in age are embarrassed by competitors, or, without any external reason, change their minds.

*France* was now no longer in dread of insults and invasions from *England*. She was not only able to maintain her own territories, but prepared, on all occasions, to invade others, and we had now a neighbour whose interest it was to be an enemy, and who has disturbed us, from that time to this, with open hostility or secret machinations.

Such was the state of *England* and its neighbours, when *Elizabeth* left the crown to *James* of *Scotland*. It has not, I think, been frequently observed by historians at how critical a time the union of the two kingdoms happened. Had *England* and *Scotland* continued separate kingdoms, when *France* was established in the full possession of her natural power, the *Scots*, in continuance of the league, which it would now have been more than ever their interest to observe, would, upon every instigation of the *French* court, have raised an army with *French* money, and harassed us with an invasion, in which they would have thought themselves successful, whatever numbers they might have left behind them. To a people warlike and indigent, an incursion into a rich country is never hurtful. The pay of *France*, and the plunder of the northern counties, would always have tempted them to hazard their lives, and we should have been under a necessity of keeping a line of garrisons along our border.

This trouble, however, we escaped by the accession of king *James*; but it is uncertain, whether his natural disposition did not injure us more than this accidental condition happened to benefit us. He was a man of great theoretical knowledge, but of no practical wisdom; he was very well able to discern the true interest of himself, his

his kingdom, and his posterity, but sacrificed it, upon all occasions, to his present pleasure or his present ease; so conscious of his own knowledge and abilities, that he would not suffer a minister to govern, and so lax of attention, and timorous of opposition, that he was not able to govern for himself. With this character *James* quietly saw the *Dutch* invade our commerce; the *French* grew every day stronger and stronger, and the protestant interest, of which he boasted himself the head, was oppressed on every side, while he writ, and hunted, and dispatched ambassadors, who, when their master's weakness was once known, were treated in foreign courts with very little ceremony. *James*, however, took care to be flattered at home, and was neither angry nor ashamed at the appearance that he made in other countries.

Thus *England* grew weaker, or what is in political estimation the same thing, saw her neighbours grow stronger, without receiving proportionable additions to her own power. Not that the mischief was so great as it is generally conceived or represented; for, I believe, it may be made to appear, that the wealth of the nation was, in this reign, very much increased, though that of the crown was lessened. Our reputation for war was impaired, but commerce seems to have been carried on with great industry and vigour, and nothing was wanting, but that we should have defended ourselves from the incroachments of our neighbours.

The inclination to plant colonies in *America* still continued, and this being the only project in which men of adventure and enterprise could exert their qualities in a pacific reign, multitudes, who were discontented with their condition in their native country, and such multitudes there will always be, sought relief, or at least change in the western regions, where they settled in the northern part of the continent, at a distance from the *Spaniards* at that time almost the only nation that had any power or will to obstruct us.

Such was the condition of this country when the unhappy *Charles* inherited the crown. He had seen the errors of his father, without being able to prevent them, and, when he began his reign, endeavoured to raise the nation to its former dignity. The *French* papists had begun a new war upon the

protestants: *Charles* sent a fleet to invade *Rhee* and relieve *Rochele*, but his attempts were defeated, and the protestants were subdued. The *Dutch* grown wealthy and strong, claimed the right of fishing in the *British* seas: this claim the king, who saw the increasing power of the states of *Holland*, resolved to contest. But for this end it was necessary to build a fleet, and a fleet could not be built without expence: he was advised to levy ship-money, which gave occasion to the civil war, of which the events and conclusion are too well known.

While the inhabitants of this island were embroiled among themselves, the power of *France* and *Holland* was every day increasing. The *Dutch* had overcome the difficulties of their infant commonwealth; and as they still retained their vigour and industry, from rich grew continually richer, and from powerful more powerful. They extended their traffick, and had not yet admitted luxury, so that they had the means and the will to accumulate wealth, without any incitement to spend it. The *French*, who wanted nothing to make them powerful, but a prudent regulation of their revenues, and a proper use of their natural advantages, by the successive care of skilful ministers became every day stronger, and more conscious of their strength.

About this time it was, that the *French* first began to turn their thoughts to traffick and navigation, and to desire like other nations an *American* territory. All the fruitful and valuable parts of the western world were already either occupied or claimed, and nothing remained for *France* but the leavings of other navigators, for she was not yet haughty enough to seize what the neighbouring powers had already appropriated.

The *French* therefore contented themselves with sending a colony to *Canada*, a cold uncomfortable uninviting region, from which nothing but furs and fish were to be had, and where the new inhabitants could only pass a laborious and necessitous life in perpetual regret of the deliciousness and plenty of their native country.

Notwithstanding the opinion which our countrymen have been taught to entertain of the comprehension and foresight of *French* politicians, I am not able to persuade myself, that when this colony was first planted, it was thought

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of much value, even by those that encouraged it; there was probably nothing more intended than to provide a drain into which the waste of an exuberant nation might be thrown, a place where those who could do no good might live without the power of doing mischief. Some new advantage they undoubtedly saw, or imagined themselves to see, and what more was necessary to the establishment of the colony was supplied by natural inclination to experiments, and that impatience of doing nothing, to which mankind perhaps owe much of what is imagined to be effected by more splendid motives.

In this region of desolate sterility they settled themselves, upon whatever principle; and as they have from that time had the happiness of a government by which no interest has been neglected, nor any part of their subjects overlooked, they have, by continual encouragement and assistance from *France*, been perpetually enlarging their bounds and increasing their numbers.

These were at first, like other nations who invaded *America*, inclined to consider the neighbourhood of the natives, as troublesome and dangerous, and are charged with having destroy'd great numbers, but they are now grown wiser, if not honest, and instead of endeavouring to frighten the *Indians* away, they invite them to intermarriage and cohabitation, and allure them by all practicable methods to become the subjects of the king of *France*.

If the *Spaniards*, when they first took possession of the newly discovered world, instead of destroying the inhabitants by thousands, had either had the unanimity or the policy to have conciliated them by kind treatment, and to have united them gradually to their own people, such an accession might have been made to the power of the king of *Spain*, as would have made him far the greatest monarch that ever yet ruled in the globe; but the opportunity was lost by foolishness and cruelty, and now can never be recovered.

When the parliament had finally prevailed over our king and the army over the parliament, the interest of the two commonwealths of *England* and *Holland* soon appeared to be opposite, and the new government declared war against the *Dutch*. In this contest was exerted the utmost power of the two nations, and the *Dutch* were finally defeated, yet not

with such evidence of superiority as left us much reason to boast our victory; they were obliged however to solicit peace, which was granted them on easy conditions, and *Cromwell*, who was now possessed of the supreme power, was left at leisure to pursue other designs.

The *European* powers had not yet ceased to look with envy on the *Spanish* acquisitions in *America*, and therefore *Cromwell* thought that, if he gained any part of these celebrated regions, he should exalt his own reputation, and enrich the country. He therefore quarreled with the *Spaniards* upon some such subject of contention, as he that is resolved upon hostility may always find, and sent *Pen* and *Venables* into the western seas. They first landed in *Hispaniola*, whence they were driven off with no great reputation to themselves, and that they might not return without having done something, they afterwards invaded *Jamaica*, where they found less resistance, and obtained that Island, which was afterwards assigned to us, being probably of little value to the *Spaniards*, and continues to this day a place of great wealth and dreadful wickedness, a den of tyrants, and a dungeon of slaves.

*Cromwell*, who perhaps had not leisure to study foreign politics, was very fatally mistaken with regard to *Spain* and *France*. *Spain* had been the last power in *Europe*, which had openly pretended to give law to other nations, and the memory of this terror remained when the real cause was at an end. We had more lately been frightened by *Spain* than by *France*, and though very few were then alive of the generation that had their sleep broken by the *Armada*, yet the name of the *Spaniards* was still terrible, and a war against them was pleasing to the people.

Our own troubles had left us very little desire to look out upon the continent, and inveterate prejudice hindered us from perceiving, that for more than half a century the power of *France* had been increasing, and that of *Spain* had been growing less; nor does it seem to have been remembered, which, yet required no great depth of policy to discern, that of two monarchs, neither of which could be long our friend, it was our interest to have the weaker near us, or that if a war should happen, *Spain*, however wealthy or strong in herself, was by the dispersion of her territories more obnoxious to the attacks of a naval

val power, and consequently had more to fear from us, and had it less in her power to hurt us.

All these considerations were overlooked by the wisdom of that age, and *Cromwell* assisted the *French* to drive the *Spaniards* out of *Flanders* at a time when it was our interest to have supported the *Spaniards* against *France*, as formerly the *Hollanders* against *Spain*, by which we might at least have retarded the growth of the *French* power, though I think it must have finally prevailed.

During this time, our colonies which were less disturbed by our commotions than the mother country, naturally increased; it is probable that many who were unhappy at home took shelter in those remote regions, where for the sake of inviting greater numbers, every one was allowed to think and live his own way. The *French* settlement in the mean time went slowly forward, too inconsiderable to raise any jealousy, and too weak to attempt any incroachments.

When *Cromwell* died, the confusions that followed produced the restoration of monarchy, and some time was employed in repairing the ruins of our constitution, and restoring the nation to a state of peace. In every change there will be many that suffer real or imaginary grievances, and therefore many will be dissatisfied. This was, perhaps, the reason why several colonies had their beginning in the reign of *Charles* the second. The *Quakers* willingly sought refuge in *Pennsylvania*; and it is not unlikely that *Carolina* owed its inhabitants to the remains of that restless disposition, which had given so much disturbance to our country, and had now no opportunity of acting at home.

The *Dutch* still continuing to increase in wealth and power, either kindled the resentment of their neighbours by their insolence, or raised their envy by their prosperity. *Charles* made war upon them without much advantage; but they were obliged at last to confess him the sovereign of the narrow seas. They were reduced almost to extremities by an invasion from *France*; but soon recovered from their consternation, and, by the fluctuation of war, regained their cities and provinces with the same speed as they had lost them.

During the time of *Charles* the second the power of *France* was every day in-

creasing; and *Charles*, who never disturbed himself with remote consequences, saw the progress of her arms, and the extension of her dominions, with very little uneasiness. He was indeed sometimes driven by the prevailing faction into confederacies against her; but as he had, probably, a secret partiality in her favour, he never persevered long in acting against her, nor ever acted with much vigour: so that, by his feeble resistance, he rather raised her confidence, than hindered her designs.

About this time the *French* first began to perceive the advantage of commerce, and the importance of a naval force; and such encouragement was given to manufactures, and so eagerly was every project received, by which trade could be advanced, that, in a few years, the sea was filled with their ships, and all the parts of the world crowded with their merchants. There is, perhaps, no instance in human story of such a change produced, in so short a time, in the schemes and manners of a people, of so many new sources of wealth opened, and such numbers of artificers and merchants made to start out of the ground, as was seen in the ministry of *Colbert*.

Now it was that the power of *France* became formidable to *England*. Her dominions were large before, and her armies numerous; but her operations were necessarily confined to the continent. She had neither ships for the transportation of her troops, nor money for their support in distant expeditions. *Colbert* saw both these wants, and saw that commerce only would supply them. The fertility of their country furnishes the *French* with commodities; the poverty of the common people keeps the price of labour low. By the obvious practice of selling much and buying little, it was apparent that they would soon draw the wealth of other countries into their own; and, by carrying out their merchandise in their own vessels, a numerous body of sailors would quickly be raised.

This was projected, and this was performed. The king of *France* was soon enabled to bribe those whom he could not conquer, and to terrify with his fleets those whom his armies could not have approached. The influence of *France* was suddenly diffused over all the globe; her arms were dreaded, and her pensions received in remote re-

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gions, and those were almost ready to acknowledge her sovereignty, who, a few years before, had scarcely heard her name. She thundered on the coasts of *Africa*, and received ambassadors from *Siam*.

So much may be done by one wise man, endeavouring with honesty the advantage of the public. But that we may not rashly condemn all ministers as wanting wisdom or integrity, whose counsels have produced no such apparent benefits to their country, it must be considered, that *Colbert* had means of acting, which our government does not allow. He could enforce all his orders by the power of an absolute monarch; he could compel individuals to sacrifice their private profit to the general good; he could make one understanding preside over many hands, and remove difficulties by quick and violent expedients. Where no man thinks himself under any obligation to submit to another, and, instead of co-operating in one great scheme, every one hastens through by-paths to private profit, no great change can suddenly be made; nor is superior knowledge of much effect, where every man resolves to use his own eyes and his own judgment, and every one applauds his own dexterity and diligence in proportion as he becomes rich sooner than his neighbour.

Colonies are always the effects and causes of navigation. They who visit many countries find some in which pleasure, profit or safety invite them to settle; and these settlements, when they are once made, must keep a perpetual correspondence with the original country, to which they are subject, and on which they depend for protection in danger, and supplies in necessity. So that a country, once discovered and planted, must always find employment for shipping, more certainly than any foreign commerce, which, depending on casualties, may be sometimes more and sometimes less, and which other nations may contract or suppress. A trade to colonies can never be much impaired, being, in reality, only an intercourse between distant provinces of the same empire, from which intruders are easily excluded; likewise the interest and affection of the correspondent parties, however distant, is the same.

On this reason all nations, whose power has been exerted on the ocean, have fixed colonies in remote parts of the world, and while those colonies

subsisted, navigation, if it did not increase, was always preserved from total decay. With this policy the *French* were well acquainted, and therefore improved and augmented the settlements in *America*, and other regions, in proportion as they advanced their schemes of naval greatness.

The exact time in which they made their acquisitions in *America*, or other quarters of the globe, it is not necessary to collect. It is sufficient to observe, that their trade and their colonies increased together; and, if their naval armaments were carried on, as they really were, in greater proportion to their commerce, than can be practised in other countries, it must be attributed to the martial disposition at that time prevailing in the nation, to the frequent wars which *Lewis* the fourteenth made upon his neighbours, and to the extensive commerce of the *English* and *Dutch*, which afforded so much plunder to privateers, that war was more lucrative than traffick.

Thus the naval power of *France* continued to increase during the reign of *Charles* the second, who, between his fondness of ease and pleasure, the struggles of faction, which he could not suppress, and his inclination to the friendship of absolute monarchy, had not much power or desire to repress it. And of *James* the second, it could not be expected that he should act against his neighbours with great vigour, having the whole body of his subjects to oppose. He was not ignorant of the real interest of his country; he desired its power and its happiness, and thought rightly, that there is no happiness without religion; but he thought very erroneously and absurdly, that there is no religion without popery.

When the necessity of self-preservation had impelled the subjects of *James* to drive him from the throne, there came a time in which the passions, as well as interest of the government, acted against the *French*, and in which it may perhaps be reasonably doubted, whether the desire of humbling *France* was not stronger than that of exalting *England*; of this, however, it is not necessary to inquire, since, though the intention may be different, the event will be the same. All mouths were now open to declare what every eye had observed before, that the arms of *France* were become dangerous to *Europe*, and that, if her incroachments were

were suffered a little longer, resistance would be too late.

It was now determined to reassert the empire of the sea; but it was more easily determined than performed: the *French* made a vigorous defence against the united power of *England* and *Holland*, and were sometimes masters of the ocean, though the two maritime powers were united against them. At length, however, they were defeated at *La Hogue*; a great part of their fleet was destroyed, and they were reduced to carry on the war only with their privateers, from whom there was suffered much petty mischief, though there was no danger of conquest or invasion. They distressed our merchants, and obliged us to the continual expence of convoys and fleets of observation; and, by skulking in little coves and shallow waters, escaped our pursuit.

In this reign began our confederacy with the *Dutch*, which mutual interest has now improved into a friendship, conceived by some to be inseparable, and from that time the states began to be termed, in the stile of politicians, our faithful friends, the allies which nature has given us, our protestant confederates, and by many other names of national endearment. We have, it is true, the same interest, as opposed to *France*, and some resemblance of religion, as opposed to popery; but we have such a rivalry, in respect of commerce, as will always keep us from very close adherence to each other. No mercantile man, or mercantile nation, has any friendship but for money, and alliance between them will last no longer than their common safety or common profit is endangered; no longer than they have an enemy, who threatens to take from each more than either can steal from the other.

We were both sufficiently interested in repressing the ambition, and obstructing the commerce of *France*; and therefore we concurred with as much fidelity and as regular co-operation as is commonly found. The *Dutch* were in immediate danger, the armies of their enemies hovered over their country, and therefore they were obliged to dismiss for a time their love of money, and their narrow projects of private profit, and to do what a trader does not willingly at any time believe necessary, to sacrifice a part for the preservation of the whole.

A peace was at length made, and the *French* with their usual vigour and

industry rebuilt their fleets, restored their commerce, and became in a very few years able to contest again the dominion of the sea. Their ships were well built, and always very numerously manned, their commanders having no hopes but from their bravery or their fortune, were resolute, and being very carefully educated for the sea, were eminently skilful.

All this was soon perceived, when queen *Anne*, the then darling of *England*, declared war against *France*. Our success by sea, though sufficient to keep us from dejection, was not such as dejected our enemies. It is, indeed, to be confessed, that we did not exert our whole naval strength; *Marlborough* was the governor of our counsels, and the great view of *Marlborough* was a war by land, which he knew well how to conduct, both to the honour of his country and his own profit. The fleet was therefore starved that the army might be supplied, and naval advantages were neglected for the sake of taking a town in *Flanders*, to be garrisoned by our allies. The *French*, however, were so weakened by one defeat after another, that, though their fleet was never destroyed by any total overthrow, they at last retained it in their harbours, and applied their whole force to the resistance of the confederate army, that now began to approach their frontiers, and threatned to lay waste their provinces and cities.

In the latter years of this war, the danger of their neighbourhood in *America* seems to have been considered, and a fleet was fitted out and supplied with a proper number of land forces to seize *Quebec*, the capital of *Canada*, or *New France*; but this expedition miscarried, like that of *Anson* against the *Spaniards*, by the lateness of the season, and our ignorance of the coasts, on which we were to act. We returned with loss, and only excited our enemies to greater vigilance, and perhaps to stronger fortifications.

When the peace of *Utrecht* was made, which those who clamoured among us most loudly against it, found it their interest to keep, the *French* applied themselves with the utmost industry to the extension of their trade, which we were so far from hindering, that for many years our ministry thought their friendship of such value, as to be cheaply purchased by whatever concession.

Instead therefore of opposing, as we had hitherto professed to do, the bound-  
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less ambition of the house of *Bourbon*, we became on a sudden solicitous for its exaltation and studious of its interest. We assisted the schemes of *France* and *Spain* with our fleets, and endeavoured to make these our friends by servility, whom nothing but power will keep quiet, and who must always be our enemies while they are endeavouring to grow greater, and we determine to remain free.

That nothing might be omitted which could testify our willingness to continue on any terms the good friends of *France*, we were content to assist not only their conquests but their traffick; and though we did not openly repeal the prohibitory laws, we yet tamely suffered commerce to be carried on between the two nations, and wool was daily imported to enable them to make cloth, which they carried to our markets and sold cheaper than we.

During all this time, they were extending and strengthening their settlements in *America*, contriving new modes of traffick, and framing new alliances with the *Indian* nations. They began now to find these northern regions barren and desolate as they are, sufficiently valuable to desire at least a nominal possession, that might furnish a pretence for the exclusion of others; they therefore extended their claim to tracts of land, which they could never hope to occupy, took care to give their dominions an unlimited magnitude, have given in their maps the name of *Louisiana* to a country, of which part is claimed by the *Spaniards*, and part by the *English*, without any regard to ancient boundaries or prior discovery.

When the return of *Columbus* from his great voyage had filled all *Europe* with wonder and curiosity, *Henry* the seventh sent *Sebastian Cabot* to try what could be found for the benefit of *England*: he declined the track of *Columbus*, and, steering to the westward, fell upon the island, which, from that time, was called by the *English*, *Newfoundland*. Our princes seem to have considered themselves as intitled by their right of prior seizure to the northern parts of *America*, as the *Spaniards* were allowed by universal consent their claim to the southern region for the same reason, and we accordingly made our principal settlements within the limits of our own discoveries, and, by degrees, planted the eastern coast from *Newfoundland* to *Georgia*.

As we had, according to the *European* principles which allow nothing to the natives of these regions, our choice of situation in this extensive country, we naturally fixed our habitations along the coast, for the sake of traffick and correspondence, and all the conveniencies of navigable rivers. And when one port or river was occupied, the next colony, instead of fixing themselves in the inland parts behind the former, went on southward, till they pleased themselves with another maritime situation. For this reason our colonies have more length than depth; their extent from east to west, or from the sea to the interior country, bears no proportion to their reach along the coast from north to south.

It was, however, understood, by a kind of tacit compact among the commercial powers, that possession of the coast included a right to the inland; and, therefore, the charters granted to the several colonies limit their districts only from north to south, leaving their possessions from east to west unlimited and discretionary, supposing that, as the colony increases, they may take lands as they shall want them, the possession of the coasts excluding other navigators, and the unhappy *Indians* having no right of nature or of nations.

This right of the first *European* possessor was not disputed till it became the interest of the *French* to question it. *Canada* or *New-France*, on which they made their first settlement, is situated eastward of our colonies, between which they pass up the great river of *St. Laurence*, with *Newfoundland* on the north, and *Nova Scotia* on the south. Their establishment in this country was neither envied nor hindered; and they lived here, in no great numbers a long time, neither molesting their *European* neighbours, nor molested by them.

But when they grew stronger and more numerous, they began to extend their territories; and, as it is natural for men to seek their own convenience, the desire of more fertile and agreeable habitations tempted them southward. There is land enough to the north and west of their settlements, which they may occupy with as good right as can be shewn by the other *European* usurpers, and which neither the *English* nor *Spaniards* will contest; but of this cold region they have enough already, and their

their resolution was to get a better country. This was not to be had but by settling to the west of our plantations, on ground which has been hitherto supposed to belong to us.

Hither, therefore, they resolved to remove, and to fix, at their own discretion, the western border of our colonies, which was heretofore considered as unlimited. Thus by forming a line of forts, in some measure parallel to the coast, they inclose us between their garrisons and the sea, and not only hinder our extension westward, but, whenever they have a sufficient navy in the sea, can harass us on each side, as they can invade us, at pleasure, from one or other of their forts.

This design was not perhaps discovered as soon as it was formed, and was certainly not opposed so soon as it was discovered; we foolishly hoped, that their incroachments would stop, that they would be prevailed on by treaty and remonstrance, to give up what they had taken, or to put limits to themselves. We suffered them to establish one settlement after another, to pass boundary after boundary, and add fort to fort, till at last they grew strong enough to avow their designs, and defy us to obstruct them.

By these provocations long continued, we are at length forced into a war, in which we have had hitherto very ill fortune. Our troops under *Braddock* were dishonourably defeated; our fleets have yet done nothing more than take a few merchant-ships, and have distressed some private families, but have very little weakened the power of *France*. The detention of their seamen makes it indeed less easy for them to fit out their navy; but this deficiency will be easily supplied by the alacrity of the nation, which is always eager for war.

It is unpleasing to represent our affairs to our own disadvantage; yet it is necessary to shew the evils which we desire to be removed; and, therefore, some account may very properly be given of the measures which have given them their present superiority.

They are said to be supplied from *France* with better governors than our colonies have the fate to obtain from *England*. A *French* governor is seldom chosen for any other reason than his qualifications for his trust. To be a

bankrupt at home, or to be so infamously vicious that he cannot be decently protected in his own country, seldom recommends any man to the government of a *French* colony. Their officers are commonly skilful either in war or commerce, and are taught to have no expectation of honour or preferment, but from the justice and vigour of their administration.

Their great security is the friendship of the natives, and to this advantage they have certainly an indubitable right; because it is the consequence of their virtue. It is ridiculous to imagine, that the friendship of nations, whether civil or barbarous, can be gained and kept but by kind treatment; and surely they who intrude, uncalled, upon the country of a distant people, ought to consider the natives as worthy of common kindness, and content themselves to rob without insulting them. The *French*, as has been already observed, admit the *Indians*, by intermarriage, to an equality with themselves, and those nations, with which they have no such near intercourse, they gain over to their interest by honesty in their dealings. Our factors and traders having no other purpose in view than immediate profit, use all the arts of an *European* counting-house, to defraud the simple hunter of his furs.

These are some of the causes of our present weakness; our planters are always quarreling with their governor, whom they consider as less to be trusted than the *French*; and our traders hourly alienate the *Indians* by their tricks and oppressions, and we continue every day to shew by new proofs, that no people can be great who have ceased to be virtuous.

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*The Copy of a Letter from an Officer at MINORCA to his Friend in LONDON.*

Dear Sir,

THE preparations which the *French* are making at *Toulon*, for an expedition to be undertaken for the conquest of this island, are no secret. Nor were they intended to be kept from the knowledge of the world, since they have been at as much pains to render them public, as they were accustomed to take for the concealment of their designs. When  
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the first reports of these preparations reached us, we were, in some measure, alarmed, as many, things which though they were of no great consequence, yet were necessary to enable us to make a proper defence, were to be immediately set about; and we were in some concern lest the enemy might be upon us before we were fully prepared for their reception: but as their proceedings are drawn out to such a length, they have given us perfect leisure to put every thing here into such a posture, as leaves us no apprehensions on their account; and our spirits are so good, our garrisons so hearty, and our supplies so ample, that if our works do not defend us, and we our works, until we can be relieved by a strong hand, we deserve to be buried in their ruins.

But to deal plainly with you, my old friend, I do not think the *French* are one jot more sincere in their declarations at this time, than they have constantly been on all other occasions.

Their real design, in all the pother they have affected to make about us, I think no other at the bottom, than an artifice to divide our naval force, and weaken our fleet in those stations where they do not like they should continue, to be a check to their ambitious views, and a formidable barrier between them and his majesty's *British* and *American* dominions.

I am farther of opinion, that if they were even landed on the island, not one man of a hundred of the natives would join them; and this for many good reasons. When general *Stanhope* reduced the garrison of *St. Philip's* castle to capitulate, in 1708, all the inhabitants agreed to submit themselves to king *Charles* the third. But it is to be considered, that this prince had a strong party among them, was esteemed by them as the equitable successor to the *Spanish* crown, and was opposed by *Philip*, claiming under what they thought a forged title, and supported by the arms of *France*. The case is far otherwise now; the *French* are far from having a party here to espouse their cause. The very turn and genius of the two nations, tend to keep them at variance: nor has there ever been a real cordiality between them: besides, as the island was ceded to *Great-Britain* by the treaty of *Utrecht*, and has remained quietly in our possession for

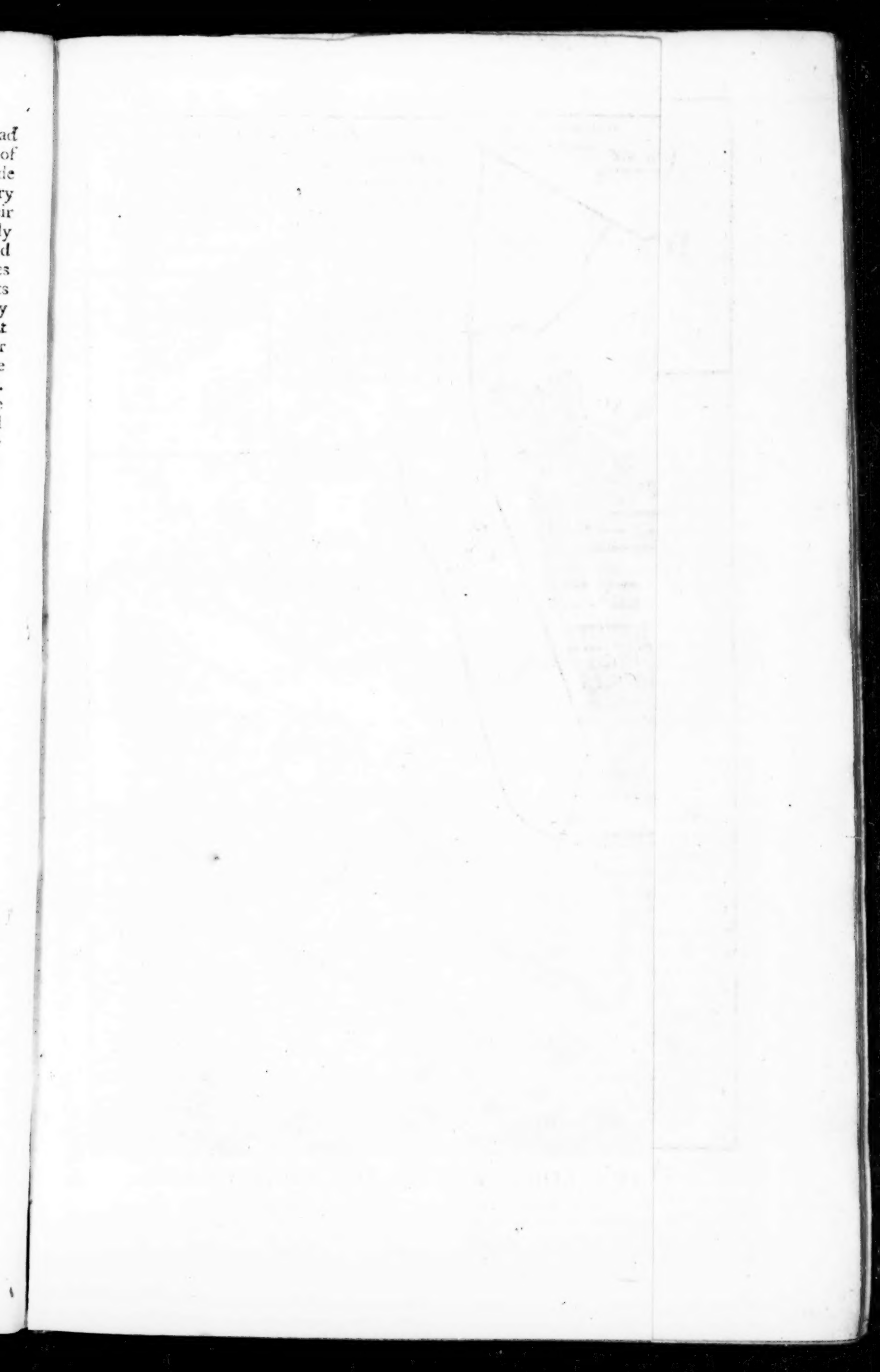
more than forty years; they have had so much experience of the lenity of our government, and have been made so easy in their religion, and in every other particular. The terms of their capitulation have been so punctually complied with; and they have found so certain redress of whatever grievances they complained of, by their agents at the *British* court, and are so vastly enriched by the immense sums that have been sent into that country, for the payment of the troops, and for the works that have been erected at *St. Philip's*, that, I am confident, there are few or none of them, but would look upon it as the greatest misfortune that could befall them, to exchange their present happy state for the servile sordid condition of *French* subjects.

These people have a great measure of sagacity, and, as of late, they have enjoyed a proportion of trade, by no means despicable; many of them have had opportunities of observing the oppressions under which their neighbours all around them groan, from the arbitrary tyranny of their government. These considerations, together with the protection of our flag against the corsairs of *Barbary*, (an advantage no other people in these parts enjoy) have highly endeared us to them, notwithstanding the difference in religion, in which too they enjoy the same freedom in all respects as when they were subject to the crown of *Spain*.

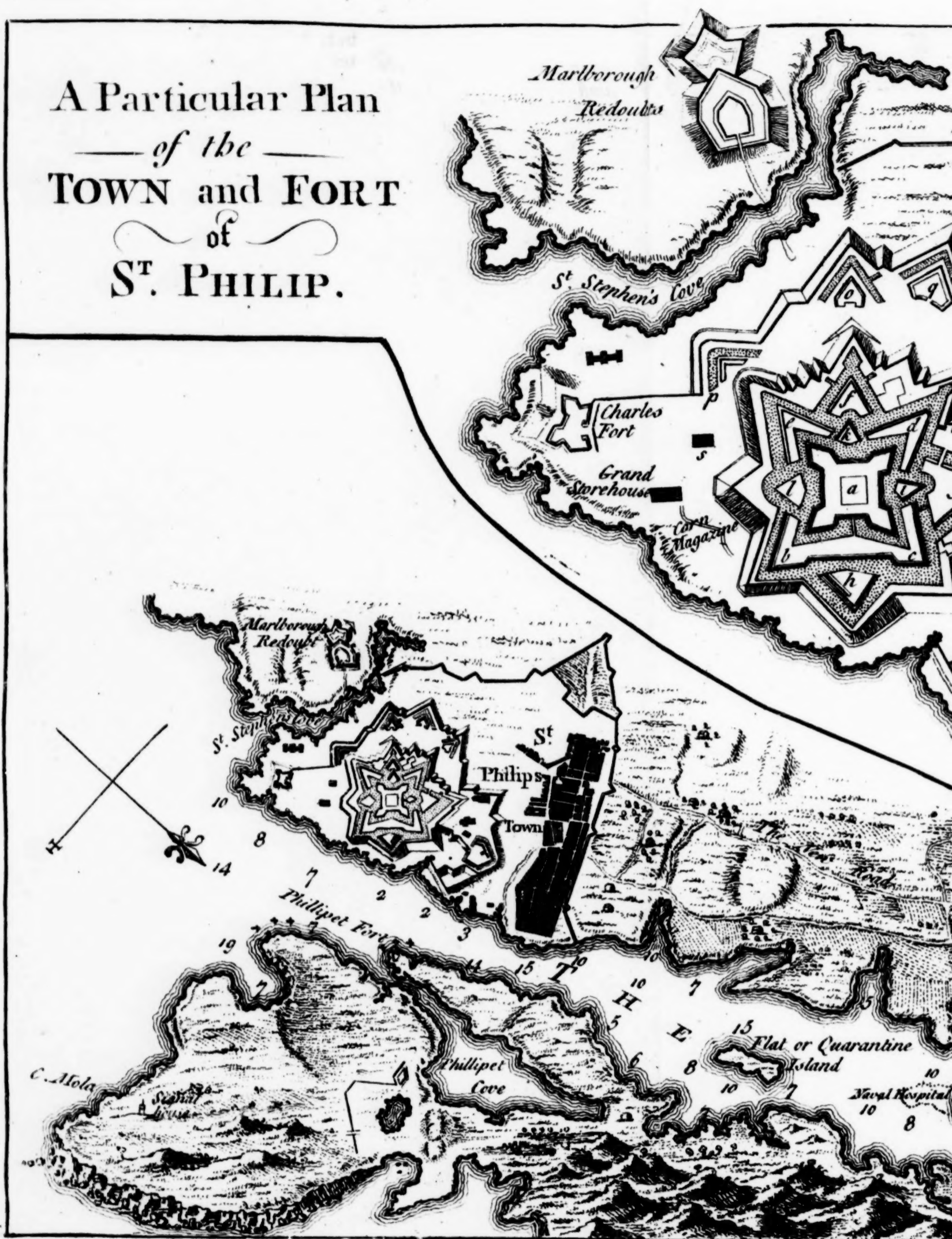
Thus have I given you my opinion, together with the reasons upon which it is grounded; from all which I conclude, that either the *French* have no real purpose of making a descent upon the island, but that their view is to divide our fleet; or that if they should attempt us at this time, they would be sorely repulsed, without affecting any thing material, and retire shamefully, leaving the greatest part of their army behind them. Whoever is well enough acquainted with the subject, to be able to compare the disposition of the natives, and the strength of this island, as they were in 1708, with what they are at this day, will, I am confident, subscribe to my opinion in every particular; and to such I leave it (and there are many such now in *London*) to satisfy those that are utter strangers to both.

I am, dear Sir, yours, &c.  
*Minorca*, 27 Feb. 1756.

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A Particular Plan  
— of the —  
TOWN and FORT  
of  
ST. PHILIP.



A DRAUGHT of the TOWN and HARBOUR of MAHON

Port Mahon Situate at the South East end of the Island Minorca, lies in Lat: about 630 Miles. The whole Island was taken in Sept: 1708 by Major Genl Stanhope. Its West end of it: But the Place of greatest Strength is St. Philip's Fort a Square of Four whole Bays cut out of the Rock on which it stands, and made by the English render it a Fortress of great strength and will contain a great Number of Ships, being about 3 Miles in Length and about half a Mile in



# MAHON with ST. PHILIP'S FORT and its FORTIFICATIONS.

Lat: about 40<sup>d</sup> North, and Long: 10<sup>d</sup> West from Gibraltar; bears from Gibraltar E. N. E. distant 14 Miles. Its Length is about 3 Miles and greatest Breadth about 1 1/2. The chief City was Ciudadella at N. North West. The Harbours, which tho' but small (not being above 400 Feet on each Front) yet the many out works of great Strength. The Harbour is one of the safest and most commodious in the whole Mediterranean Sea. A Mile in Breadth.

A Particular Plan  
— of the —  
TOWN and FORT  
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At this time, when the eyes of Europe are turned upon the expedition of the French against PORT-MAHON, the public will naturally require some account of the island of MINORCA, which we shall extract from the history written in the form of letters, by Mr. Armstrong, in 1740.

THE island of *Minorca* lies in the Mediterranean sea, about sixty leagues southward from the coast of *Catalonia*, in the fortieth degree of north latitude. It is about thirty-three miles long, and in breadth from ten to thirteen, containing about 236 square miles. It is divided into four *terminos* or districts, that of *Mahon*, of *Alajon*, of *Mercedad* and *Fereria*, and of *Ciudadella*. The chief courts of justice were held at *Ciudadella* till the *English* obtained the island, who, considering *Mahon* as the town of most importance on account of its harbour and the fort of *St. Philip*, made it the capital.

*Minorca* being a commodious station for ships employed in the Mediterranean, was first conquered by the first naval power, the *Phœnicians* or *Carthaginians*, from whom it was taken by *Metellus* the Roman. It was seized in 421 by the northern nations, that had conquered *Spain*, who held it about three hundred years. The *Moors* then made a descent upon it from *Africa*, and conquered it. *Charlemain* seized it in 801, but the *Moors* recovered it about six years afterwards, and established a *Mahometan* king over the *Balearic Islands*, with the title of *King of MAJORCA*. This kingdom continued a long time to infect the Mediterranean with rovers, and kept the coasts of the neighbouring continent in perpetual terror.

At length *James* the first, king of *Aragon*, wearied and exasperated with continual injuries and vain remonstrances, resolved to suppress this *Mahometan* persecution; and, invading *Majorca* with twenty thousand men, took *Palma*, the capital by assault on the 31st of December, 1229. *Minorca* became by stipulation tributary to him about three years afterwards.

In 1289 *Alphonso*, king of *Aragon*, determined to make a complete conquest of *Minorca*. The *Moors* obtained succours from *Barbary*, and omitted no preparations for a vigorous defence;

but, being defeated with great slaughter in two battles, they retired to mount *Agatha*, a naked rock of great height, well fortified and stored, and accessible only by a narrow passage. Hither they were pursued; but the assailants, however resolute and eager, were always repulsed. Famine at last supplied the inefficacy of the sword; *Agatha* was surrendered, and in 1287, the *Moors* of *Minorca* became slaves to the *Spaniards* on the 17th of January, which is still observed there as a high festival.

*Minorca* continued a province of *Spain* to the year 1708, when general *Stanhope* landed with two thousand men, and when they had with great difficulty brought up their artillery, they in a few days, with the loss of only forty men, obtained possession of the island, though there were a thousand men in garrison at the castle of *St. Philip*. At the peace of *Utrecht* *Minorca* was granted to the *English*, and has remained in their hands till now without disturbance.

The inhabitants capitulated for the continuance of their old laws and customs, though inconvenient and oppressive; and indeed it was natural for a people little acquainted with the state of other countries, and conquered by men whom they considered as heretics, and had been taught to dread and hate, as the most mischievous of the human race, to prefer any condition, of which they knew all the good and bad, before that which the caprice of a conqueror might prescribe. They have one principal tribunal, called the court of regal government; to this appeals may be made from the particular courts of the several districts, which are governed by *Jurats* or magistrates chosen yearly. A general council is called on great occasions. The ecclesiastical court is held at *Ciudadella* by the vicar-general. The governor is patron of all the benefices.

The natives of *Minorca* are computed to be about twenty seven thousand, of which nearly three hundred are ecclesiastics. Their country is able to maintain a far greater number; but having been long oppressed and plundered, they have not much inclination to industry. Their religion is popery in its grossest degree of superstition; they are intirely in subjection to the priests, who

who enter any house unquestioned, and procure large contributions for the souls in purgatory, and all other purposes of religion.

The carnival or festival before *Lent* is their time of pleasure; no trade is exercised during this happy season, but all the day and night is filled up with ceremonies of religion, or spectacles of entertainment.

When they dance, which is their usual diversion, as indeed of all nations civil and barbarous, the man endeavours to move with great agility and strength, and the lady, with much solemnity and slowness, her eyes being always fixed upon the ground.

They practise few exercises; they never ride but for journeys, and then commonly on mules or asses, which are there of a large size. Those that hunt or shoot commonly propose to themselves the profit, rather than the pleasure.

The common people are disarmed, but the gentlemen are allowed swords and fire-arms, and are at liberty to take game like the *English* officers.

The common dress of the men is a cloke, a loose short coat, a waistcoat, a worked girdle, a coarse shirt, breeches reaching to the ankles, with stockings and flat-heeled shoes, a red cap and a flapped hat. The gentlemen wear black clothes, of the *English* fashion, with wigs, hats, and swords. When they are in mourning they draw a covering of black cloth over the scabbard.

The women wear a close waistcoat of black stuff, with a coloured petticoat, and a robazilla or kind of hood, which is pinned under the chin, and falls down the shoulders; their hair is gathered behind in a ribband, and hangs almost to their feet; the dress of ceremony is the black veil; they marry at about fourteen, and begin to decay at five and twenty.

The *Minorcans* have scarcely any literature among them; they are taught in the convents a little grammar, which they soon forget; and in the sciences are so ignorant, that not many of them attain the principles of arithmetic. There are very few women that can read or write.

They are generally abstemious and unexpensive, and seldom make entertainments, or invite guests to their houses. Having no knowledge of

books, and being excluded from all other means of information, they are no great talkers; and the men, being habitually jealous, do not much covet the acquaintance of strangers.

The women appear so seldom, that the best suit of clothes descends from mother to daughter through several generations. They are employed in domestic business, spinning and needle-work.

They are, even to the lowest and poorest among them, clean and neat in their houses; they rise early, dine at noon, and amuse themselves some hours in the evening.

*Minorca*, though by no means to be celebrated for its fertility, yet affords many species of both animal and vegetable productions, and might supply yet more, if a little care were used for their propagation. But the *English*, who are there, think only how to get home, and the natives have probably little encouragement to make improvements, which they consider as enjoyed more by the heretical garrison than by themselves.

Their horses are small, and less used for travel than mules, which are more sure-footed, and will fare more hardly, but are extremely vicious. The cows likewise are small, and both beef and mutton are very bad, but the pork and kid's flesh is delicious. They have multitudes of rabbits, but no deer or hares. There are land tortoises in great numbers, and many hedge-hogs.

They have other animals less agreeable. Lizards on every wall without numbers, with snakes, vipers, and scorpions, and centipedes that swarm after sunset in every dwelling, and vanish on the dawn of day.

Of birds they have the eagle, who builds on inaccessible rocks; the vulture, with the owl, and every kind of the hawk. There are many swallows and martins, with great plenty of the red-legged partridges, quails, wild-pigeons, ringdoves, woodcocks, snipes, and wild ducks.

Of fish, being surrounded by the sea, they have almost every species.

Their vegetable productions are very numerous, as may be expected in such a latitude: their vineyards make the greatest part of their wealth; they have olives, but they make neither pickles nor oil; they have mastic trees,

trees, but they do not gather the gum. Their timber is chiefly from the ilex or evergreen oak, and they use the tops of the myrtle for tanning leather.

Of fossils they have many varieties. Vast masses of granite are every where to be found, and marble of every variation lies on the surface of the ground.

Such is the state of the island of *Minorca*, but a more particular account will be required by the reader of the Port of *Mabon*, for the sake of which the island has been hitherto kept. This port which has its name from the town that overlooks it, opens in the south-east part of the island with a narrow entrance, which soon widens into a bay a league long, and half a league broad, deep enough to contain the largest ships, and completely sheltered from storms, and from enemies. So that it is a place of considerable value to a distant maritime power, as it supplies a secure station to a fleet of men of war, or a retreat for merchants.

The entrance into this port is defended by *St. Philip's* Castle, which is the principal fortification, on the fate of which depends that of the island. It stands on a neck of land, and extends its outworks to the sea on either side. It is well furnished with large guns, and the whole fortification is undermined. 'Of the utmost advantage to this place,' says Mr. *Armstrong*, 'are the capacious galleries that are cut out of the rock and extend themselves under the covert-way, throughout all the works. These subterraneans afford shelter and quarters to the garrison, impenetrable by shot or shells, and not to be come at but by cutting a way to them through the living rock, against which they are provided with countermines at proper distances.'

After this account of the fort it will be proper to give Mr. *Armstrong's* opinion of the resistance which it can make to a siege. Mr. *Armstrong* was an engineer by profession, and therefore his opinion must be of great weight. 'Our strength,' says he, 'is about two thousand four hundred effective men, which likewise is the present number of the garrison upon the most favourable supposition; Of these only one third can be put on duty at once, and we have a vast extent of works for eight hundred men to defend. Then an allowance

' must be made for detachments to be drawn from these for preserving the platforms, repairing the damage done by the enemy, and other emergencies, besides a considerable abatement to be expected from the sick, wounded, and killed, not to say deserters. These things considered, though I make no doubt of the goodness of the troops, yet, I fear, that if we were not suddenly relieved by our fleet, a powerful enemy, well provided for such an undertaking, would too soon make himself master of the place.

There is reason to believe, that *St. Philip* is now besieged by a powerful enemy, well provided, and, I think, it is made too plain in the quotation that resistance cannot be long. Whether our fleet will arrive soon enough to save it, or whether we are not in danger of having the fleet overpowered it is not possible to determine, nor prudent to predict. If we should destroy the fleet and reinforce the garrison, the besiegers will then be themselves besieged, for we can supply the fort at pleasure, and an army before it must moulder away by desertion and diseases. If they should have taken the fort before the arrival of our fleet, yet, if even then their fleet should be destroyed, they will pay dearly for their purchase, for it will not be easy to furnish them with provisions, while we are masters of the sea.

There is, I fear, one great advantage on their side. The natives will probably favour them, as they have no *Anfiruther* among them, and are of their own religion. The time is now come, when it will appear, that oppression is folly as well as wickedness, and that whoever expects fidelity from a conquered people, must send men like *Kane* to govern them. A people taxed, harassed, and insulted, will always be desirous of changing their condition, and the new comer will be always welcome, since they cannot fear him more, and they will hate him less.

It is always good to consider the worst that can happen, and therefore I have amused myself with considering what we shall really lose by losing *Minorca*.

This island was taken in 1708, and has therefore been in our possession about forty-eight years. It is generally garrisoned with about three thousand men, at least the whole number of *English* residing there, soldiers, women, and servants

#### 14. *On the Inconveniencies and Disorders arising from*

servants amounts to full three thousand. Of these, it is reasonable to believe that every tenth person dies yearly of the climate, the sea, the diet, or something that would not have happened to them at home. So that even in time of peace *Minorca* is kept at the expence, modestly computed, of three hundred lives a year, which in forty-eight years amount to fourteen thousand four hundred.

Mr. *Armstrong* computes that the *Minorcans* lose upon the balance of trade annually fifty-three thousand one hundred pounds, and that this loss is almost compensated by the pay of the *English* troops spent amongst them. We must therefore send to *Minorca* at least fifty thousand pounds a year, which in forty-eight years make two millions and four hundred thousand pounds.

Of the advantages arising from this place, I can collect no such accurate account, but confess, that I am not able to image to myself any that in forty-eight years have been equivalent to so much money and so many lives. It is said to increase our reputation in the *Levant*, but that reputation neither makes us much richer nor much happier.

If the distribution of empire were in my hands, I should indeed rather give up *Gibraltar*, the possession of which will always keep us at variance with *Spain*, than *Minorca* which may be less invidiously retained. But I know not whether either is worth its charge, and by losing them, I am not sure that we shall suffer any thing more than that vexation which accompanies disgrace, and the pain of doing that against our will, which we should have been glad to do if no violence had compelled us.

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#### *On the INCONVENIENCIES and DISORDERS arising from STRAIT LACING in STAYS.*

THERE are no evils the world is less aware of than those which are owing to fashionable customs; for the generality are unwilling to believe, that the practice of all ranks of people can be amiss, or produce any bad effects. And yet the contrary may be proved by several plain instances; but, at present, I shall produce only one,

and that not of the least consequence. It is well known that the fair sex, of all degrees, are very fond of a fine shape, and that this has produced an invention unknown to former ages, and to the greatest part of the known world in this; I mean stiff whalebone stays. Whether the wearing these machines at all or not, is prudent and wholesom, is not the immediate question, my design being to show that strait-lacing, in this part of the female dress, is productive of various disorders; disorders that are the more dangerous and more difficult to prevent, inasmuch as many ladies prefer the desire of pleasing to health itself: and the rather because the maladies that are produced by this practice are generally attributed to other causes, which, for that reason, are never properly treated, and often become incurable.

Those who have been among the negroes in *America*, or have visited the savage *Indians* in *Africa*, and have likewise attended anatomical dissections at home, cannot help observing the difference of shape between them and our own country-women arising from the wearing of stays. The naked *Africans* have a great resemblance to the statues of *Venus* carved in the ancient manner; whereas our own females have a greater likeness to a jointed doll. This is owing to the pressure of the lower ribs by the stays, by which they are more bent, and the cavity of the upper part of the abdomen greatly lessened. This is unhappily called a *fine shape*, and a fondness for this is the source of great irregularities in the human frame. Some of the intestines will be driven upwards by this means, and, by compressing the liver, the spleen, and the stomach, will thrust them against the diaphragm, insomuch that it will become convex upwards, and injure the parts designed for respiration or breathing. The hips likewise jut out in an extravagant manner, at the same time that there is a compression of the *Epiploon*, most of the small intestines, part of the colon, the mesentery, the blood vessels, the nerves, the lacteals and the kidneys, the bladder, the rectum, with the neighbouring parts, are thrust downward, and, in some, a great part of the intestines themselves, which gives those  
women

women the appearance of being pregnant.

The hind part of the stays is generally very stiff, and, as far as they reach, render the spine of the back immovable. The arm-pits are always hurt when the stays are too high under the arms, and the two muscles, which form the arm-pits, namely the great pectoral and the great dorsal, are confined and strangled, as it were, with a cord. These and the other compressions, which are too many to mention in particular, being duly considered, it is very evident they must produce chronic diseases of different kinds; for instance, the jaundice is owing to the compression of the liver; a bad digestion and sick fits to that of the stomach and *duodenum*; the green-sickness to that of the lymphatic glands. In short, obstructions, tumours and schirrosities, to the compression of the mesenteric glands, the pancreas, ovaries, and other internal parts of the lower belly.

But the mischief does not stop here: the head and the breast have likewise their share. The diaphragm being thrust upwards, the lungs will not have room to play and expand freely, whence shortness of breath will necessarily arise; besides the circulation of the blood through the lungs will be impeded, whence a stagnation on some part or other may ensue, which will terminate in a *vomica*, an ulcer, and a consumption of the lungs. In the lower belly the great blood vessels must be very much crowded, which will affect the circulation of the blood in general; the regular course of which is so necessary to life and health. The passage of the blood from the heart, by the trunk of the great ascending artery, being retarded, and the flowing of the blood to the heart being rendered more difficult by the pressure of the *vena cava*, will, in a course of years, produce palpitations, fainting-fits, polypus in the heart or the large vessels, and the disorders consequent thereupon. While the passage of the blood is thus impeded below the heart, it must needs rush in greater plenty to the upper parts, whence an extraordinary pulsation of the carotid arteries, and sometimes an enlargement of the jugular veins, pains in the head, dizziness, and, not seldom, an apoplexy.

These ravages in the constitution would be much more quick and evident if the stays were not laid aside at bed-time; and it is exceedingly happy for the ladies, that rest at night in some measure repairs the injuries of the day. This, joined to a good constitution, may in some entirely prevent these terrible disorders. But to depend upon this is running a terrible risk, and what few would be prevailed on to do in any other case.

This account of the disorders proceeding from strait lacing is not a chimera of the brain, but is supported by incontestible facts. Besides the practice of the ladies is an indirect proof of what is here asserted; for when any woman faints, or is taken with any sudden illness, the first thing usually done is to unlace the stays, and though the reason of this practice is perhaps but little attended to, yet the benefit received from it shows beyond all contradiction, that the functions of the body would be more regularly performed, if the females were not thus girded in by these murdering machines.

There is one consideration yet behind, which perhaps may have more influence on the ladies than all the rest, and that is, that stays often spoil the shape which they are intended to preserve. If any of the fair sex will examine their own acquaintance carefully, they will find perhaps some one that hath the right shoulder larger and more prominent than the left. This is owing to the stiffness of the parts of the stays which covers the back; for though it keeps down both the omoplates equally at first, yet in process of time the right arm being more in motion than the left, it procures more liberty for the shoulder on the same side by degrees, and consequently, part of the pressure being taken off, it hath more room to grow than the other, and hence this inequality arises.

After all, there are some cases where stays and even steel stays may not only be indulged but advised; and that is when any part of the body has a tendency to grow out; for in this case it will prove an efficacious remedy either to prevent or lessen the deformity. But this is by no means a reason for confining children to this sort of dress in order to preserve their shape, for where there is nothing of this kind in use, there is not one crooked child, nor yet  
man

## 16 Premiums for the Incouragement of Arts, Manufactures, &c.

man or woman to be found. I speak this from my own experience, for I have viewed the children of naked people in *Africa* and *America*, and never saw one deformed in their bodies. And if there were any such among the men and women, the crookedness might be readily perceived.

R. B.

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To the P R I N T E R.

*Craig's-Court, April 7, 1756.*

**T**HE society for the encouragement of arts, manufactures and commerce, propose, in pursuance of their plan, to bestow the following premiums.

*Madder* being necessary for dying, and now imported from abroad to the amount of 100,000 l. per annum, and upwards, although it might be propagated in *England*, as it has been heretofore; therefore it is proposed, to give as a premium, for planting and raising the largest and best roots of madder in this kingdom, in any single acre of ground, the whole acre being planted therewith, twenty roots of the second year's growth to be produced as samples, on or before the first *Wednesday* in *December*, 1757, 20 l.

For the second and largest best, 10 l.

For the same quantity on the same terms, of one year's growth, the largest and best, 16 l.

For the second largest and best, 8 l.

*Zaffer* being used in the painting of china and earthen-ware, and *Smalt* a principal ingredient in the composition of powder-blue, both which articles are constantly imported from abroad to the amount of about 300,000 l. weight annually; it is therefore proposed to give as a premium, for making the most and best *Zaffer* and *Smalt* from *Englisch* cobalt, not less than 5 lb. weight of zaffer, and 15 l. weight of smalt, to be produced on or before the second *Wednesday* in *January*, 1757; and likewise 1 lb. of the ore the said zaffer and smalt were produced from, in order to a counter-proof, 30 l.

*Borax* being of great use in all vitrifications, in the fusion of ores, and absolutely necessary in foldering, which it is apprehended may be discovered or made in *England*; it is proposed to give a premium, for 10 l. weight of borax,

discovered or made in this kingdom, having the same properties, and capable of the same uses, as that which is imported; to be produced on or before the third *Wednesday* in *January*, 1757, 25 l.

For the best drawings by boys under the age of 14 years, on proof of their abilities, on or before the fourth *Wednesday* in *January*, 1757, and in proportion to their merit, 15 l.

For the best drawings by boys under the age of 17, on the like proof, at the same time, and in the same manner, 15 l.

For the most ingenious and best-fancied designs composed of flowers, fruit, foliage and birds, proper for weavers, embroiderers, or calico-printers, drawn by boys, under the age of 17 years, and of their own invention; on the like proof, at the same time, and in the same manner, 15 l.

*Note*, That any boy may be permitted to draw in any of the above classes, but to receive no more than one premium at his own choice; and that no gainer of any premium in any class of the last year shall be intitled to the premium in the like class this year.

For the most ingenious and best-fancied designs, composed of flowers, fruit-foliage and birds, proper for weavers, embroiderers, or calico-printers, drawn by girls, under the age of 17 years, and of their own invention; on the like proof at the same time and in the same manner, 15 l.

Notwithstanding the art of paper-making is arrived to great perfection in *England*, yet as considerable quantities of a particular sort are imported from abroad; it is therefore proposed, to give as a premium for making one ream of paper, which upon trial shall be judged to come nearest in all its qualities to the *French* paper, proper for receiving the best impressions from copper-plates; to be produced on or before the first *Wednesday* in *February*, 1757, 20 l.

*Note*, Specimens of the sort of paper referred to will be delivered to any paper-maker who will apply for it.

Whereas large quantities of salt-petre are made in *France* and other parts of *Europe*, while we are obliged to import that commodity from the *East-Indies*, to the annual amount of 2,000,000 lb. weight; it is therefore proposed, to give 100 l. as a premium, to the person or persons, who shall make

(at

(at any one manufactory) the best 10000 lib. weight of salt-petre, in a method different from that mentioned in Mr. Paul Nightingale's patent and specification, fit for gun-powder, within three years from the date hereof, made from materials the produce of *England* or *Wales*, or from sea-water, 100 lib. weight thereof to be produced to the society, by way of sample, for the society to make such trial thereof, as they shall direct.

For the second best-like quantity, fit for gun-powder, within the same time, 50 l.

Note, A copy of Mr. Nightingale's patent and specification may be seen at the society's office.

Turkey Carpets for their strength and wear, being most useful to the public, and the value of them annually imported, amounting to more than 1,6000 l. could such carpets be manufactured here, it would cause a great consumption of our wool, a considerable increase of the dying-trade, and employ a number of men, women and children; therefore a premium of 30 l. is proposed to be given to the person who shall make the best carpet in one breadth, after the manner of *Turkey* carpets, for colour, pattern and workmanship, to be at least 15 feet by 12 feet; and to be produced on or before the last *Wednesday* in *March*, 1757.

For the second-best of the same dimension, 20 l.

For making a nest of the largest and best crucibles, equal to those imported, for melting metals and salts, to be produced on or before the second *Wednesday* in *January*, 1757, 20 l.

As dying yarn with red and green has been found difficult to keep the colour in washing; therefore it is proposed to give for dying the best holding or fast colour, scarlet in grain in flaxen yarn, not less than 2 lib. weight; to be produced to the society on or before the second *Wednesday* in *January*, 1757, 20 l.

For dying the above quantity of flaxen yarn with a lasting and firm green colour, at the same time, and on the same conditions, 10 l.

Verdegrease being imported from abroad to a very considerable amount, and very useful in dying, painting, and many other branches of trade; therefore it is proposed to give a premium of 20 l. to the person who shall make the best ver-

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degrease, not less in quantity than 100 lib. weight, to be produced on or before the third *Wednesday* in *February*, 1757.

As the producing large quantities of silk in *Georgia*, will be of great advantage both to this country and to that colony; this society, in order to encourage the same, proposes as follows, viz. to the person who shall plant and properly fence the greatest number of white mulberry-trees, on his own plantation, in the province of *Georgia*, before the first of *March*, 1757, 10 l. Sterling.

For the second greatest number, 5 l.

For the third greatest number, 3 l.

These three claims to be determined by *James Habersham*, Esq; one of the council in *Georgia*, and Mr. *Otholenge*, who are desired to certify the same to the secretary of the society.

Whereas there are societies for the encouragement of arts, manufactures and commerce, in that part of *Great-Britain* called *Scotland*, and also in *Ireland*; therefore all the premiums of this society are designed for that part of *Great-Britain* called *England*, the dominion of *Wales*, and town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, unless expressly mentioned to the contrary: and shall be determined as soon as possible after the delivery of the specimens; proper affidavits or such certificates as the society shall require, to be produced on every article. Those persons who received premiums last year, shall not be intitled to the same premiums this year; all apprentices are likewise excluded from being claimants.

By order of the President,

WILLIAM SHIPLEY, Secretary.

Note, Any information or advice that may forward the design of this society for the public good, will be received thankfully, and duly considered, if communicated by letter, directed to Mr. Shipley in *Craig's-court*, *Charing-cross*.

The CONNOISEUR. No. 117. Ap. 24. 1756.

Ergo baud difficile est perituram arcessere  
summam  
Lancibus oppositis, vel matris imagine  
fracta. JUV.

I Have often amused myself with considering the mean and ridiculous shifts, to which the extravagant are  
D some

sometimes reduced. When the certain supplies of a regular income are exhausted, they are obliged to cast about for ready cash, and let the invention to work, in order to devise the means of repairing their finances. Such attempts to enlarge their revenue have frequently driven those, whose great souls would not be curbed by the straits of their circumstances, into very uncommon undertakings: they have sent lords to *Arthur's*, and ladies to assemblies, or sometimes worse places. We may safely conclude, that whoever breaks through all oeconomy, will soon discard honesty, though perhaps it might be deemed *scandalum magnatum* to aver, that prodigal men of quality have often sold their country to redeem their estates, and that extravagant ladies have been known to make up the deficiencies of their pin-money by pilfering and larceny.

But one of the first and chief resources of extravagance, both in high and low life, is the pawnbroker's. I never pass by one of those shops without considering them as the repositories of half the jewels, plate, &c. in town. It is true, indeed, that the honest and industrious are sometimes forced to supply their necessities by this method: but if we were to inquire, to whom the several articles in these miscellaneous warehouses belong, we should find the greatest part of them to be the property of the idle and infamous among the vulgar, or the prodigal or luxurious among the great: and if, in imitation of the ancients, who placed the temple of honour behind the temple of virtue, propriety should be attempted in the situation of pawnbrokers' shops, they would be placed contiguous to a gin-shop, as in the ingenious print of *Hogarth*, or behind a tavern, gaming-house, or bagnio.

Going home late last *Saturday* night, I was witness to a curious dialogue at the door of one of these houses. An honest journeyman-carpenter, whose wife, it seems, had pawned his best clothes, having just received his week's pay, was come to redeem them, that he might appear as fine as he usually did on *Sunday*, but it being past twelve o'clock, the man of the house, who kept up the conversation by means of a little grate in the door, refused to

deliver them; though the poor carpenter begged hard for his holiday clothes, as the morrow was *Easter-Sunday*. This accident led me to reflect on the various persons in town, who carry on this kind of commerce with the pawnbrokers, and gave occasion to the following dream:

I was scarce asleep, before I found myself at the entrance of a blind alley, which was terminated by a little hatch; where I saw a vast concourse of people, of different ages, sex, and condition, going in and coming out. Some of these, I observed, as they went up, very richly dressed; and others were adorned with jewels and costly trinkets: but I could not help remarking, that at their return they were all divested of their finery; and several had even their gowns and coats stript off their backs. A lady, who strutted up in a rich brocaded suit, sneaked back again in an ordinary stuff night-gown; a second retreated with the loss of a diamond solitaire and pearl necklace; and a third, who had bundled up her whole stock of linen, scarce escaped with what she had upon her back. I observed several gentlemen, who brought their sideboards of plate, to be melted down, as it were, into current specie: many had their pockets disburdened of their watches; and some, even among the military gentlemen, were obliged to deliver up their swords. Others of the company marched up, heavy laden with pictures, household goods, and domestic utensils: one carried a spit, another brandished a grid-iron, a third flourished a frying-pan, while a fourth brought to my remembrance the old sign of the dog's head in the porridge-pot. I saw several trot up merrily with their chairs, tables, and other furniture; but I could not help pitying one poor creature among the rest, who, after having stript his whole house, even to his feather-bed, stalking along, like a lock-patient wrapt up in the blankets, while his wife accompanied him, doing penance in the sheets.

As I was naturally curious to see the inside of the receptacle, where all these various spoils were deposited, I stepped up to the hatch, and, meeting a grave old gentleman at the threshold, I desired him to inform me what place it

it was, and what business was transacted there. He very courteously took me by the hand, and, leading me through a dark passage, brought me into a spacious hall, which he told me was the *temple of usury*, and that he himself was the chief priest of it. One part of this building was hung round with all kinds of apparel, like the sale-shops in *Monmouth-Street*; another was strewed with a variety of goods, and resembled the brokers shops in *Harp-Alley*; and another part was furnished with such an immense quantity of jewels and rich plate, that I should rather have fancied myself in the church of the lady of *Loretto*. All these, my guide informed me, were the offerings of that croud, which I had seen resorting to this temple. The churches in *Roman-catholic* countries have commonly a cross fixed upon them; the *Chinese* erect dragons and hang bells about their pagods; and the *Turkish* mosques have their peculiar hieroglyphics: but I could not help taking particular notice, that this temple of usury had its vestibule adorned with three wooden balls painted blue; the mystery of which, I was told, was as dark and unfathomable as the *Pythagorean* numbers, or the secret doctrines of *Trismegist*.

When I had, in some measure, satisfied my curiosity in taking a general survey of the temple, my instructor led me to an interior corner of it, where the most splendid offerings were spread upon a large altar. This bauble, said he, shewing me an elegant sprig of diamonds, is an aigret, sent in last week by a lady of quality, who has ever since kept home with her head muffled up in a double clout for a pretended fit of the tooth-ach. She has, at different times, made an offering of all her jewels: and besides these, her whole wardrobe was very lately lodged here, which threw her into an hysterical fever, and confined her to her bed-gown for upwards of a month. Those ear-rings and other jewels are the *paraphernalia* of a young bride, who was so constantly a votary to this place, that, when nothing else remained for an offering, she even brought in her wedding-ring. You may be surprised, perhaps, to behold such a variety of

necklaces, girdle-buckles, *solitaires*, and other female ornaments, as are here collected: but it is observable, that their devotions in the temple of usury have been chiefly encouraged and kept alive by their assisting at the midnight orgies of avarice.

Nor are the gentlemen, continued he, less encouragers of our rites. That gold watch laid snug, for a considerable time, in the fob of a young man of quality; but it was one night jerked out by a single throw of the dice at a gaming-table, and made its way into the pocket of a stranger, who placed it here, to keep company with several others, which have been brought hither on a similar occasion. Those brilliant buckles once glittered in the shoes of a very pretty fellow, who set out last winter on his travels into foreign parts, but never got farther than *Boulogne*: and that sword with the rich fillagree hilt, and elegantly-fancied sword-knot with gold tassels, once dangled at the side of a spirited buck, who left it here two years ago, when he went off in a great hurry to take possession of a large estate in his native country, *Ireland*, whence he is not yet returned. You may see many others of these instruments of death, which rust peaceably in their scabbards, as being of no use whatever to their owners: that, which commonly hangs upon the vacant peg there, belongs, you must know, to a noble captain: it is called upon duty once a month, and is at this instant mounting guard at *St. James's*.

Not far from these rich ornaments hung several embroidered coats, laced wastecoats, *Point d'Espagne* hats, &c. This suit, said my venerable instructor, pointing to one richly embroidered, was made up for a noble lord on the last birth-day, and was conveyed hither the very next morning after it had appeared at court. That jemy wastecoat with the gold-worked button-holes, on the next peg, was the property of a smart templar, who, having spent a night out of his chambers, sent his wastecoat hither in the morning, as a penitential offering by his landlady. As to that heap of camblet gowns, checked aprons, and coloured handkerchiefs, which you see strung together a little further off, they are oblations

made here by a sect of maudlin votaries, who resort to this temple to pay their devotions to a goddess, whom they have christened *madam Gin*, but whom they sometimes honour with the more proper appellation of *Strip me Naked*.

While my conductor was thus relating the history of the various offerings, and the persons who had made them, he was suddenly called aside to a dark closet, several of which were erected near the entrance, and appeared not unlike the confessionals of the *Romish* priests. These little boxes I found were appointed to receive the votaries, who came to pay their devotions, and make their offerings: but the necessary rites and ceremonies were commonly solemnized with as much caution and privacy, as the mysteries of the *bona dea* among the *Romans*. At present, however, there was a great noise and hubbub than usual. A person of the first rank in the kingdom, who had made some very considerable oblations of gold and silver plate, was now about to celebrate a feast in honour of *Bacchus*, in which these rich utensils would be requisite, on which occasion he prayed to have the use of them. The chief priest, after having received the customary fee, granted a dispensation for this purpose, and loaded the messengers with a number of wrought ewers, vases, and chargers, at the same time commissioning two or three of the inferior officials of the temple to attend the celebration of the feast, and to take care that the plate was duly returned, and safely lodged again in the temple.

These matters were scarce adjusted, before an unexpected incident filled the whole temple with confusion and disturbance. A rude tribe of officers broke in upon us, put a stop to the rites, and seized the chief priest himself, charging him with having profaned the place by a crime almost as infamous as sacrilege. He was accused of having encouraged robbers to strip the citizens of their most valuable effects, and for a small reward to deposit them as offerings. The clamour on this occasion was very great, and at last one of the officers, methought, seized me, as a party concerned; when endeavouring to clear myself, and strug-

gling to get out of his clutches, I awoke.

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*An authentic Account of the present State of LISBON, sent February 10, 1756, by a Person of Distinction in that City to his Friend in London; in answer to some Questions on that Subject. Extracted from a Pamphlet intitled, A Satirical Review of the manifold Falshoods and Absurdities hitherto published concerning the Earthquake. Printed for C. Corbett.*

‘**T**H O’ I am now somewhat more at leisure than I was, it will not be possible for me to answer all the questions, you put to me in your letter, in so full and-satisfactory a manner as you may wish: Since to do that, so as to give you an exact idea of the situation of things, the only sure means would be to lay them down in a topographical map. I shall only tell you, that, on thoroughly examining your own conjectures, I find very little for myself to add to, or take from, them, what has escaped consisting in what you have already particularised, without any considerable difference.

‘Tho’ the destruction has been excessive; yet we are not in extreme desolation, nor in such a state as renders the re-establishment of the city an impracticable task. For to mention only what is left of it, I will venture to affirm, that there are many capital cities in *Europe*, which have not as much either in circumference or extent. In proof of which, we need only run over the different parts of the town, and observe what still remains, notwithstanding all the ravage which was committed in the centre of the city, the part which suffered most.

‘In the neighbourhoods of the hill of *Bairro alto*, tho’ the fire caused great havoc from the *Conventidas* on one side, and from the palace of don *Emanuel de Sousa* on the other, quite down to the corner of the royal palace; still all the parish *das Mercês* escaped, and from its lowest extremity quite to the middle of the *North-street*. But in the strait part of the street the palaces of the marquis of *Maria Luísa*, of signior *John Xavier*, where the *Dutch* minister resided, and of the count of St. *Tiago*

' *Tiago* on the opposite side to the  
' abovementioned places, were all burnt.  
' Great part of the neighbourhoods and  
' parish of *St. Catharine* also escaped:  
' the districts of *Jesus*, of *Rato*, of *Mo-*  
' *cambo* had the same good fortune; and  
' so had the districts of *St. Joseph*, quite  
' down to *S. Sebastiano da Pedreyra*;  
' of *Moiraria* quite to *Royos*, turning to-  
' wards *S. John dos bem Cazados*; ---  
' the whole district of *Paraizo*, which  
' takes in the great opening of *St. Clara*  
' and all its dependencies; and finally  
' all the vast territory from this district  
' quite to *Mar-villa*.

' To shew then by these districts that  
' the town has not been intirely demo-  
' lished, as has been given out, it needs  
' only to be remember'd, that the space  
' from *St. Paul's*, where the fire stop'd,  
' to *Belem*, makes an extent of five  
' miles *English*: that from *Moiraria* to  
' *Royos*, makes other two; and that from  
' *St. Joseph* to *S. Sebastiano da Pedreyra*  
' makes at least two more. All which  
' spaces are filled with houses and in-  
' habitants, and have received but little  
' damage: and the same is the case of  
' great part of the district of *Alfama*  
' quite to *Mar-villa*, which makes an  
' extent of more than two miles, and  
' escaped the conflagration: And even  
' in the centre, where the flames wrought  
' the greatest havock, there is a street or  
' two through which the fire never  
' passed.

' I am not insensible, that those princi-  
' pal parts, which were its victims,  
' were of very great importance: in as  
' much as they contained the most  
' stately temples and the habitations of  
' the trading people. However, as I  
' before observed, all the grand devasta-  
' tion was wrought in the centre of the  
' town.

' All the other parts abovementioned  
' are almost every where inhabited, and  
' shops and manufactures carried on  
' there. It is true, there are great  
' numbers of barracks in all the open-  
' ings and airlets, as *Campo de coral*,  
' *Coto-via*, *Bonos Ayres*, *Boamorte*, near  
' the silk-manufactory and other places.

' The greatest part of the houses are  
' propt, some on account of the great  
' damage they have received; but the  
' bulk from the prudence of their pro-  
' prietors, who were willing to prevent  
' all danger by these precautions. Still  
' as they are almost all secured with

' props, it is thence conjectured by the  
' people, that all are ruinous. Certain  
' it is however, that the number of  
' those, which really have been da-  
' maged, is but too great; and as to  
' churches, they are mostly down.  
' Even those which have not fallen,  
' though they remain upright, are con-  
' siderably shattered. For as the earth-  
' quake wrought the strongest impres-  
' sions, where it met with most re-  
' sistance, these received the greatest  
' damage.

' The churches, which, having first  
' suffered by the tremor, were destroyed  
' by fire, are the following ones: *Loyos*, *S.*  
' *Maria mayor*, *Madalena*, *Conceycao nova*  
' *e velha*, *Misericordia*, *S. Justa*, *S. Nicolao*  
' *S. Juliao*, *Victoria*, *S. Domingos*, *Pa-*  
' *triarcal*, *Boa Morte*, *Spirito Santo*,  
' *Martyres*, *S. Francisco*, *Corpo Santo*,  
' *Sacramento*, *Carmo*, *Trindado*, *Loreto*,  
' *Igreja nova*, *Chagas*, and *S. Paolo*.

' The churches which fell intirely were  
' *S. Vicente*, *S. Clara*, *S. Monica*, *N. S.*  
' *da Monte*, *N. S. da Penha de Franca*,  
' and the church of that parish; *S. Pedro*  
' *de Alcantara*, *S. Anna*, *Calvario*, and  
' *S. Antonio dos Capuxos*.

' The churches of the *Paulists*, of *Jesus*,  
' of *S. Benedict*, suffered no damage:  
' But those of the *Bernardines*, of *Madre*  
' *de Deos*, and *Santos Velha*, though  
' standing, are much shattered.

' It is not feasible to fix the number  
' of the dead; and much less to distin-  
' guish stations and sexes. At first the  
' total was made to amount to 14 or 15  
' thousand; since when some have pre-  
' tended to swell it to 40,000. But I  
' can by no means bring myself to give  
' into it.

' *Setuval*, though but a little town,  
' has greatly suffered. For, of all its  
' churches, there are not above three  
' or four of the smallest which have es-  
' caped. And they compute to 4000  
' persons of both sexes, as having pe-  
' rished there, part in the ruins, part by  
' the impetuosity of the sea, which arose  
' above its walls, and, sweeping off the  
' people, bore them away with it in its  
' reflux.

' Most days since the first, we have  
' had perceptible repetitions of tremulous  
' motions of the earth, with a degree of  
' rumbling, which immediately precedes  
' them. On the first day of the new moon  
' of this month, we had one; and the  
' day before yesterday, between four and  
' five

' five in the evening we had another;  
' but without farther prejudice, than of  
' opening the crevices of some houses al-  
' ready ruined, but not yet fallen.

' By letters and persons come from  
' *Beyra*, and from beyond the moun-  
' tains, we have learnt, that they felt  
' there the same shocks; and they are  
' pretty commonly felt throughout the  
' kingdom.

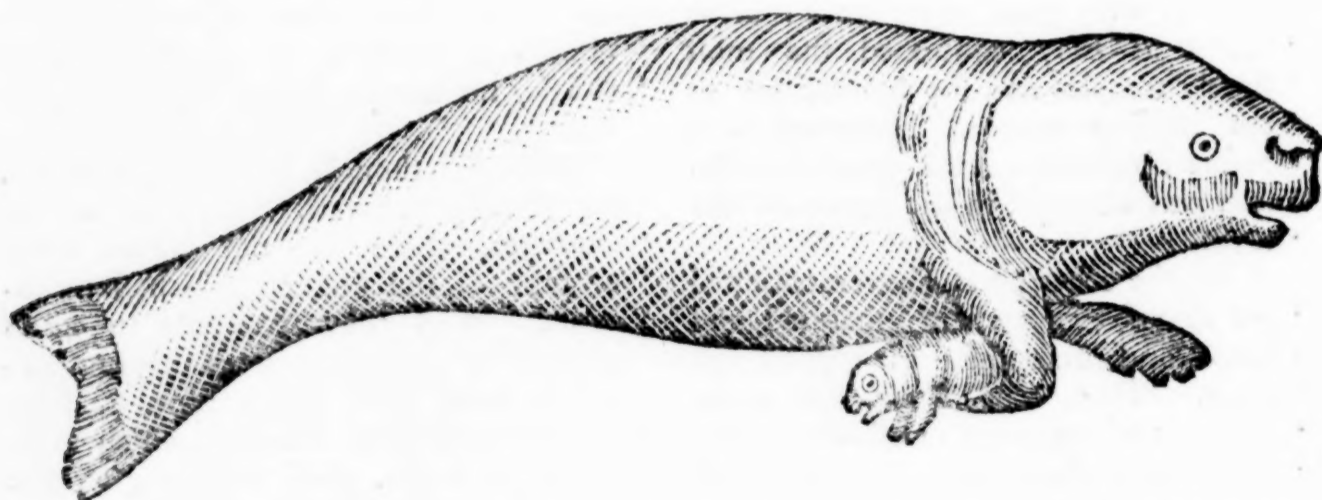
' From *Brazil* we have hitherto no  
' news, though a rumour was spread,  
' that the *Bahia de todos os Santos* was in-  
' tirely lost, which is nevertheless false.  
' For to this present day not a single  
' sail has arrived from those parts: So  
' that if any such fable should reach your  
' part of the world, you may with great  
' safety declare it to be an absolute for-  
' gery.'

Such then is the actual, real situation  
of that place which once was LISBON, and  
has been since gazetically and pamph-  
letically quite destroyed, consumed, an-  
nihilated! Now, upon comparing this  
simple narration of things and facts with  
the false and absurd accounts, which have  
rather insulted and imposed upon us,  
than informed us; who but must see the  
enormous disproportion? which dispro-  
portion I impute to ignorance, folly, or  
affectation, or all three, in some; to

malignancy, prejudice, artifice, or avarice, or all, in others; and in some few to consternation, panic, and all their exaggerative powers.

Exaggeration and the absurdities ever faithfully attached to it, are inseparable attributes of the ignorant, the empty and the affected. Hence those eloquent tropes so familiar in every conversation, *monstrously pretty*,--*vastly little*, *extravagantly saving*; hence your *unspeakable fine speeches*, your *elegant copies of inimitable originals*, and your *eminent shoe-makers, farriers, paviors and undertakers*: hence a city fop has dined at my lord mayor's feast *a thousand times*; and a courtly one has been stifled at *Ranelagh* by the *millions* of folks who were there. And it is to the same muddy source we owe the many falsehoods and absurdities we have been pestered with concerning *Lisbon*. Thence your extravagantly sublime figures,---*Lisbon is no more*,---*Lisbon is destroyed*,---*can be seen no more*: thence your dismal catastrophes; your *fear and sorrow terrible to behold*; and *pyramids of ruined fronts*: and thence your *brightest glories*; your determined resolutions, your *prosperous prosperities*, your *agitated minds in their full firmness*, with all the other prodigal effusions of bombast, beyond the stretch of time or temper to enumerate.

A DESCRIPTION with the ANATOMY of a MANATEE, or SEA-COW,  
found near an ISLAND to the East of KAMTSCHATKA.



THIS animal, called by the *French* a LAMENTIN, is not amphibious, as some have represented, but lives constantly in the sea, and feeds upon *sea-weed* near the shore. It is covered with a skin of an extraordinary thickness, which looks more like the bark of an old oak-tree, than the hide of any animal

yet known, being rough, wrinkled, black, without hair, and so hard that it can hardly be penetrated with an ax. When cut it is as smooth and as black as ebony, and of about the thickness of an inch. The back is the smoothest part, and is covered with circular wrinkles from the top of the neck to the tail-fin. The sides are

are full of large inequalities, especially about the head. But it must be remembered, that this we are speaking of is not the true skin, but the cuticula, which is full of tubes, which excrete a serous mucus, especially about the neck and head. While it continues moist it is of a brownish black, but when it is dry it becomes quite black. The true skin which covers the whole body is not above two lines thick, and though it is soft it is exceeding strong and of a white colour.

The whole length of this Manatee was twenty-six feet wanting four inches, and yet the head, compared to the vast bulk of the body was but small, and not marked where it is distinct from the body. It is flat on the top, and goes off sloping to the snout, which is eight inches in diameter. The head is covered with a black hard cuticle, which is exceeding rough, but thinner than in other parts. The mouth is but little, and yet large enough for his manner of feeding. The lips both above and below are double, and divided into the inner and outer. The outer upper lip terminates the snout, and appears like a semicircle at the end. It is thick, gross, fourteen inches broad and ten high. It is white and beset with many tubercles, out of each of which springs a white pellucid bristle four or five inches long. The outer upper lip is five inches long, and two and a half high, distinct from the other in every respect, except the basis. It is rough and villous, and closes the upper part of the mouth exactly; it is moveable, and by its motion serves to lay hold of and crop the sea-wreck.

The nether lip is likewise double, and that on the outside is black, and forms a sort of a chin seven inches broad, and above six high, but has no bristles. The inner lip is villous, and but a little separated from the outer, neither does it appear when the mouth is shut. The corners of the mouth are beset with very thick white bristles an inch and an half long, which keep the water from washing away his food while he is eating, which is forced out this way when he closes his mouth. The bristles are as thick as crow-quills, hollow within and bulbous at the root, and gives us a just idea of the make of our own hair without the help of a microscope. This outer lower lip is thick and gross as well as the upper. The lower jaw, which only is moveable, is shorter than the upper, and the lips move

in the same manner as those of cattle. But as the stalks of the marine plants are more thick and tough than those on shore, so the lips of these animals are thick, strong, and nervous in proportion; insomuch that they will not grow soft though boiled never so long; and yet the fat will come out easily enough, leaving a white cellulous substance behind, which has the appearance of a sort of net-work.

These animals have no teeth, but they have two strong white bones in their room, which run all the length of each jaw, which serve for the same purpose. These are not let into the jaws like teeth, but are united by a sort of *papilla*, which run from the bone into the lower jaw, and from the jaw into the bone. The upper bone is united to the palate in the same manner. The nostrils resemble those of a horse, and are parted with a gristle an inch and one third broad. The nostrils themselves are two inches over; they are full of wrinkles on the inside, and bristles half an inch long.

The eyes are placed in the middle between the end of the snout and the ears, and are no bigger than those of sheep, but without any external marks near them; for they appear to be only round holes made in the skin not half an inch in diameter. The iris of the eye is black, the bulb livid, and without any *canthus* appearing outwardly. But it has a nictating membrane, which serves to cover and clean the eye occasionally. The ears are so small they cannot readily be found, for they are only small holes which will scarce admit the end of a very small quill. The tongue is twelve inches long, two and a half broad, and as rough as a file. It lies so far back in the throat, that at first one would think it had no tongue at all. The neck is united to the rest of body, and it could not be readily distinguished, if it were not for the motion in feeding. From the shoulders to the navel the body is greatly enlarged, and from thence to the anus it grows slender again. The circumference of the neck near the head is near seven feet, and of the body near the shoulders twelve feet. The greatest circumference of the middle of the body is twenty feet four inches; and of the tail next the fin four feet eight inches.

In the summer when they are fat they are hog backed, and in the winter when they are lean, the spine of the back is visible, and all the *vertebrae*. The tail beyond the anus grows sensibly very small to the

the tail-fin, and is somewhat of an oblong quadrangular figure. It is exceeding strong and is terminated by a very hard black fin not unlike whalebone, consisting of plates laid one upon another. Towards the end it is lacerated, and appears almost like the common fins of large sea-fish. In this part it is six feet and a half broad. It is forked at the end, and both parts are of the same size, which is otherwise in very large sea-fish.

The fore fins or arms, as some call them, are very remarkable, and are twenty-six inches and a half in length. They consist of two joints, with an *ulna* and a *radius* as in men, as also a *tarsus* and *metatarsus*; but they have neither fingers nor nails. They are covered with solid fat intermixed with tendons and ligaments, and over all a thick skin and cuticle, which partly resembles a horse's hoof, convex on the upper-side, but flat below, where they are all over beset with bristles half an inch long, and are as rough as a brush. These fins, or arms, or feet, serve the animal to walk with at the bottom of the water, to keep him steady among the slippery stones, and to root up the seawreck and the marine grass from the bottom of the water, and to embrace the female in the time of copulation.

The *breasts* are placed between the arms, one under each, which are convex and a foot and a half in diameter. They are hard, rough and wrinkled, and when they give suck the teat is four inches long. The *penis* is in length thirty-two inches, and is like that of a horse. They copulate *more humano*. The stones said to be found in the heads of these animals, are not to be met with in those of these parts, nor perhaps in any other, for no author that speaks of them ever saw them. The brain is of a good consistence but small, and not parted from the *cerebellum* by any bony septiment. The gullet is large and full of wrinkles, and near the stomach it has many triangular appendages, probably to prevent the regurgitation of the aliment.

The *stomach* is of a stupendous size, being six feet long and five broad. When it is full of sea-wreck and grass, four men can hardly draw it along with ropes. It is not villous but smooth on the inside, which is very singular, and it has a gland about the size of a man's head near the insertion of the gullet. It is full of pores and mouths, from which a liquor is discharged like the pancreatic juice. Upon trial it turned a silver probe black. The stomach

abounded with white worms half a foot long, by which it was perforated in several places, as well as the gland into which some were got. But whether this gland is natural or morbid, could not be determined by a second experiment for want of assistance. The pylorus was so large, it appeared like a second stomach, and the pancreas was divided into two lobes.

The intestines or guts were more numerous than in any other animal, and filling the capacity of the abdomen rendered it very tumid. When they were pricked the wind flew out with great impetuosity. They were covered with a very strong *peritonæum*, which reached from the *os pubis* to the *sternum*, and adhered to the false ribs on both sides. The guts were quite full of excrements from one end to the other, and the small guts when pricked, spurted out their contents with great force. These were about six inches in diameter. The *cæcum* and *colon* were divided into many cells, but no valve could be found in the latter. In other respects they resembled the guts of a horse, and the dung was of the same form. The whole length of the intestinal tube from the gullet to the anus, was 497 feet four inches *English* measure.

The *mesentery* was very thick and fat, with many glands as large as walnuts, but the lacteals and lymphatic vessels could not be discovered by reason of the fat. The inside of the *thorax* was lined with a *pleura*, consisting of two membranes, with a muscle between them all the way about an inch thick. The urinary bladder was very strong, but not larger than a man's head. The *aspera arteria* or windpipe consisted of one continued gristle turned in a spiral manner, and covered within and without with a strong membrane. The same structure is continued when it is divided into branches and enters the substance of the lungs. The diameter of the windpipe is above four inches. The *glottis* is like that of an ox, and covered very closely with an *epiglottis*. The *thyroide* gland was very large and cloven, it poured out a liquor like sheep's milk from the lesser glands on the outside, but within it had a fluid like pap, and very fizy.

The *apex* or point of the heart turned towards the *sternum*, and the basis towards the back. There was no *mediastinum*, and the *pericardium* was very large, insomuch that it rather seemed to line the thorax, than to contain the heart like a sack. The heart

heart weighed near thirty-seven pounds, and was two feet two inches long. It had two *apices* or points answering to the ventricles, and was of a flattish form. It had valves at the entrance of the blood-vessels in the same manner as the human heart. The coronary veins were very large and had valves, which has not been observed in any other creature. The *lungs* lay along the back, and were very long and broad. Each lobe was covered with a strong membrane, which gave them an aspect different from those in other creatures.

The *liver* had two large lobes, besides a third which represented a smith's anvil, placed between the two former. Outwardly the liver is covered with a strong nervous membrane, on the gibbous part of which the branches of the coeliac vein run along, which are blue and very tumid. The colour of the substance of them is more dark than that of an ox, but is very soft, and easily broke with handling. It has no gall-bladder, but has a biliary duct which enters the *duodenum* with the pancreatic duct. The kidneys are placed on each side of the spine of the back, and are thirty-two inches long and eighteen broad, covered with a strong membrane. When this is taken off, they seem to be divided into many parts, about two inches long each. They have all a particular urethra, which uniting into one canal descends to the bladder. The spleen and *capsulae biliariae* were forgot to be examined.

The *BONES* in general for strength and solidity, exceed those of all terrestrial animals. Only the scull is about the size and thickness of that of a horse, and resembles it pretty much. The *vertebrae* are sixty in all. There are five pair of true ribs and twelve of the spurious. The *sternum* in the upper part where it joins to the ribs is cartilaginous, but toward the pit of the stomach it is bony. Instead of the *os innominatum*, there are two bones one on each side, which are joined to the *vertebrae* of the tail by strong ligaments, as well as to the *os pubis*. The collar-bones are wanting. The arms have two bones, besides the *tarsus* and *metatarsus*.

From what has been said it appears the mistakes of authors have been very great. It has nothing that can be properly called hair, unless the bristles may have that name, but is covered with teguments of a singular kind. The head is not like that of a calf, but is peculiar to itself. They never feed on the banks of rivers, for they never

come out of the water; though all these particulars have been asserted by one or other.

These animals frequent the shoals, with a sandy bottom near the sea-shore, especially near the mouths of rivers, for they are fond of fresh water. They keep together in large companies and surround the young ones. When the tide is in they come very near the shore, and may be touched with the hand or a stick, unless in places where they are commonly hunted. They bring forth their young at all times of the year, but most commonly in autumn, and have but one at a time. They go with young above a year, perhaps eighteen months, for the time of generation is early in the spring. They seem to be almost constantly feeding, and for that reason have generally their heads under water, except every four or five minutes, when they put out their snouts to fetch breath, and then snort like a horse. They move along slowly and gently, partly swimming and partly walking; but they keep their back and sides out of the water, on which a bird called a *lar* commonly sits, and picks off the lice with which this animal is infested. They do not feed on all seaweed alike, but only some particular sorts. They now and then lie floating on their backs asleep at some distance from the shore, at such a time as there is no danger of being left on shore by the going out of the tide.

The MANATEE has no voice nor cry, nor makes any noise but what proceeds from fetching of his breath. What use he makes of his eyes or ears is very hard to say, but he does not seem to make much use of either, from any trials that could be made. But the account that *Dampier* gives, seems to infer the contrary; for, he says, the hunters always follow this animal with as little noise as possible. This writer describes those in the *West-Indies* in the following manner. 'This creature is about the bigness of a horse and is ten or twelve feet long; [*Labat* 'saw one caught that was fifteen] the 'mouth of it is much like the mouth of a 'cow, having great thick lips. The eyes 'are no bigger than a small pea, the ears 'are only two small holes on each side of 'the head. The neck is short and thick and 'bigger than the head. The biggest part 'of this creature is at the shoulders where 'it has two large fins, one on each side 'its belly. Under each of these fins the 'female has a small dug to suckle her 'young. From the shoulders towards the 'tail

'tail it retains its bigness for about two feet, and then grows smaller to the very tail, which is flat and about fourteen inches broad and twenty long, and four or five inches thick in the middle, but about the edges not above two inches thick. It is round and smooth from the head to the tail.'

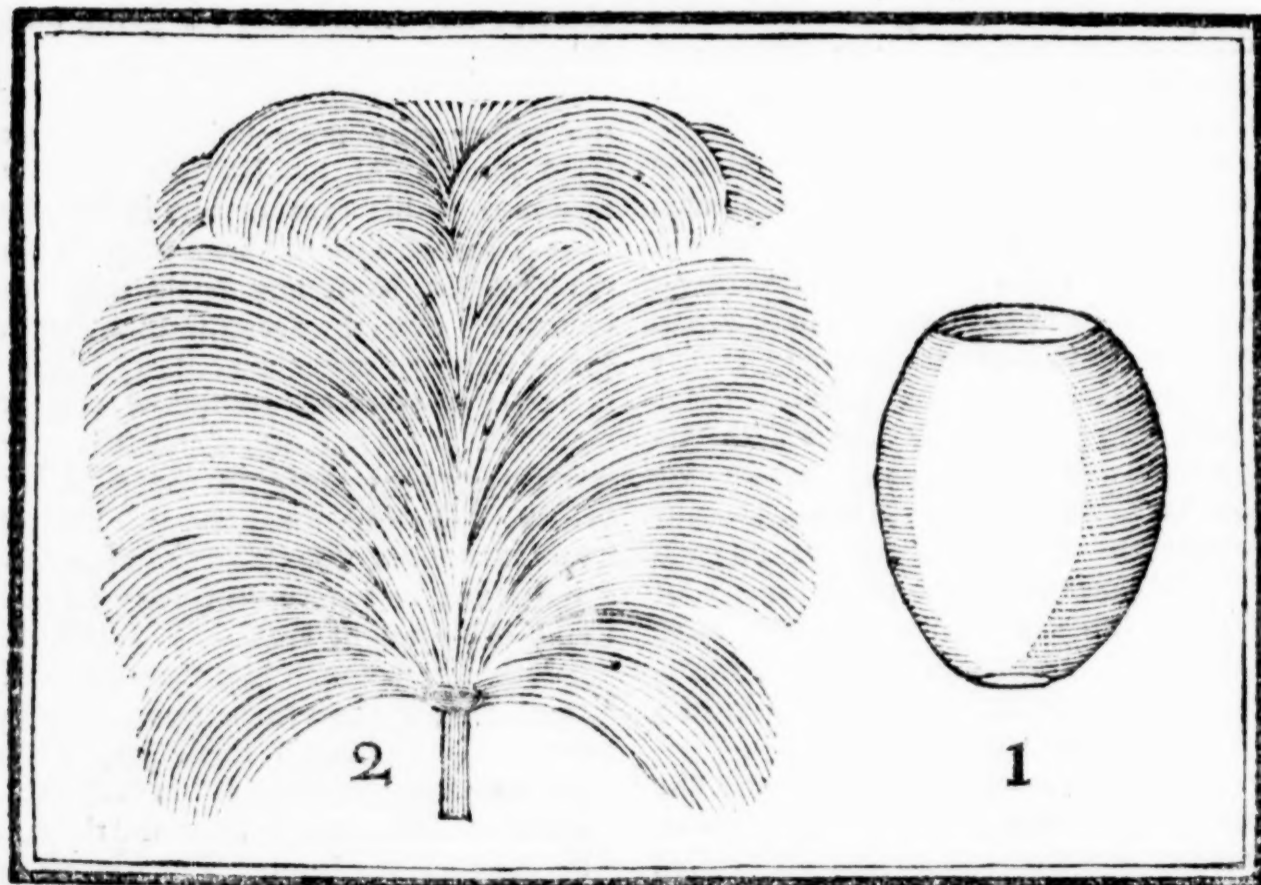
The fat that lies between the cuticle and the skin being exposed to the sun has a fine smell and taste, and far exceeds the fat of any sea animal. It has this peculiar property that the heat of the sun will not spoil it, nor make it grow rancid. The taste is like oil of sweet almonds, and may be used for all the purposes of butter. In a lamp it neither smokes nor has a strong smell. Any quantity may be taken inwardly with safety, for it has no other effect than the keeping the body open. The fat of the tail is of a harder consistence, and when boiled is more delicate than the other. The fibres of the lean are like beef, but more red, and may be kept along while in the hottest days in the open air without tainting. It takes a long time in boiling, but when boiled is like beef. The fat of the young manatee or calf is like the fat of pork, and can scarce be distinguished from it, and the flesh is like veal. It is soon boiled and swells con-

derably in the pot. The heart, kidneys, liver, &c. are rejected because there is such plenty of the parts that are much more in esteem.

In the Philosophical Transactions, vol. xvii. p. 113. there is the following remarkable story quoted from Martyr, of a tame MANATEE.

"A governor, in the province of Nicaragua, had a young manatee, which was brought to him, to be put into the lake Guainabo, which was near his house; wherein he was kept for the space of twenty-six years, and was usually fed with bread, and such-like fragments of victuals, as people often feed fish with in a fish pond. He became so familiar, by being daily visited and fed by the family, that he was said to excel even the dolphins, so much celebrated by the ancients for their docility and tameness. The domestics of this governor named him *matto*; and at whatever time of the day they called him by that name he came out of the lake, took victuals out of their hands, crawl'd up to the house to feed, and play'd with the servants and children; and sometimes ten persons together would mount upon his back, whom he carried with great ease and safety cross the lake."

*A Letter from Mr. Woulfe on Flowers made by Crystallisation.*



1. The form of the Cup. 2. A representation of the Flower.

S I R,  
THE flowers we saw, and which the owner refused to take so much money

for, were undoubtedly formed by Crystallisation. I am confirmed in this opinion by

experiments I have since made, for some of my flowers are equal to his. And they are made thus---add to *saccharum saturni* as much warm distilled water as will dissolve it; then filtre it, and having provided a cup in the shape of an egg (but open at the top) made with tobacco-pipe clay burnt, fill it with the solution; and when it begins to crystallise, and part of the solution has obtained a passage through the pores of the cup, fill it again: then let it stand a few days and the flowers will be perfected. There are other saline substances that will answer this purpose as well as the sugar of lead, but those only are to be used that are of such a nature as not to be altered by the action of the air.

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COLLATERAL BEE-BOXES; *Or a new, easy, and advantageous method of managing Bees. In which part of the honey is taken away, in an easy and pleasant manner, without destroying, or much disturbing the Bees; early swarms, if desired, are encouraged, and later ones prevented.* By Stephen White, M. A.

**T**HE reverend author of this little treatise appears to be a man of ingenuity, candor, and, what is far more valuable, of piety; willing to communicate his knowledge for the advantage of others, and careful to learn before he presumes to teach, having, as he declares, tried every method before he found the right, and *been almost forty years in making a bee-box.*

The boxes must be cubes of about eight inches and an half measured within, made of strong dry boards. In the fore part, at the bottom, must be an opening four inches long, and only half an inch high, that is, so low as to exclude a mouse. In the upper part behind must be fixed a piece of crown-glass five inches high and three broad, which must be covered with a shutter to be opened at pleasure. At the two ends of the box, a space is to be left near an inch wide at the top, and more than an inch wide at the bottom; the two ends are made by pieces of slit deal shooting into the edges of the front and back-boards. The boxes have no bottom board. A stick crosses the box from end to end about three inches from the bottom, to support the combs. There must be a board to

cover the end, which, as it is to be moveable, must be tied on with tape, which the author fastens by pegs fixed in the box, and turned round at pleasure.

When bees are to be hived, two boxes must be tied together, the ends having the passages of communication left open where they join, and being covered with end-boards at the two outer ends. The rest of the process is as in the common way. When the bees are entered, the box must be covered with a linen cloth and green branches. Where the boxes are placed is of much less importance than is generally thought, the author having known them to thrive on the north side of a high tower. If the shutter of the window be kept close, and the sun fenced off, they will not suffer much inconvenience. They bear cold with little injury; but the hot sun in summer melts their wax, and in winter hinders them from sleep, and makes them consume their stores. He places his boxes on stages one above another, with a cover over head, and a board before them to shelter them from the sun.

When the bees are hived it is proper to look through the glass, to see in which of the boxes they have settled; the mouth is then to be stopped, that they may pass only through the empty box. When they have filled one, they will begin to work in the second, and then a third must be added, by taking off the end-board, which they will have fastened with wax, and putting the new box close with an open passage, the mouths of the two-end boxes must be stopped, that they may go in and out only at the midmost.

About the middle of *August* you must uncover the glasses, and peep into the hives. Those bees that have filled three boxes may, without any danger, lose one. About three in the afternoon, therefore, observe the end-box, in which there are fewest bees; open the mouth, and divide it from the middle, by sliding a plate of tin between them; the communication being thus stopped, the bees in the single box will fly out in about two hours, leave the box empty, and join their fellows; the end-board must then be tied on the end of the two boxes, and they may be left till next spring.

By the use of these boxes the time of swarming may be adjusted. Bees do not leave their habitations but for want of room, of which they may have, by this method, more or less at pleasure. If they

are confined to two boxes they will swarm early; if three be allowed them, the swarm will be late and larger. After the first swarm it will be proper to prevent a second, by adding box after box, as often as they are filled. Such colonies as require four boxes to keep them from swarming will admit the master to take two boxes in the autumn.

If moths spin their webs in the box it must be cleaned, or the box must be taken away.

It has been found by experience, that bees swarming late, and wanting provisions of their own, cannot be preserved by honey given them, however liberally, either because such honey corrupts, or because the crude wax, called *bee-bread*, is necessary to their support. When two colonies therefore are weak, there is no way but that of suffering them to perish, or supplying one by the destruction of the other.

The ingenious author having given these plain and benevolent directions, cautions his reader against a mistake which

is very common, and which has hitherto deluded the author of this abstract. It has been imagined by many well-meaning men, that bees may be multiplied without end, and that consequently there are no limits to their products and the profits arising from them. But this author confesses, that his method will, in a few years, stock a country with as many bees as it will maintain, which, in some places, are very few. 'There are now in my village,' says he, 'only ten colonies of bees; and I am persuaded that no greater number can subsist here; whereas, in some countries that promise less, there is a profusion of honey. I therefore cannot promise great things; but hope that by my method the poor will be benefited, though not enriched.'

No one, who intends the pleasure or profit of a bee garden should be contented with this abstract, but consult the original treatise, which has a neat cut of the bee and boxes.

### A S O N G. Set by *Sappho*.

Long by an I—the Passion toft, By love un—done my  
reason lost, How many  
fruitless ten— it To free me from the  
smart. To free me from the smart.

2.  
I rav'd, I sigh'd but all in vain,  
Nor cou'd my liberty regain,  
Or break the little tyrant's chain;  
Alas! how weak my art!

3.  
At length I flew to pride for aid,  
But equally by that betray'd:  
To ev'ry power in vain I pray'd;  
But none wou'd pity show:

4.  
'Till reason to my breast once more,  
Did all my former peace restore,  
And brought content not in the pow'r  
Of *Strephon* to bestow.

An EPITAPH on Mr. DOVE, an Apo-  
thecary; who unfortunately murdered  
himself by canvassing at Elections.

Here lie,  
Sequester'd from the various calamities of life,  
The remains of  
*Benjamin Dove*, Doctor and Dealer in politics;  
Whose courage and intrepidity exposed him  
to many dangers and difficulties, and at  
last to death itself; for on the 26th  
of May 1754, he fell a victim,  
Not to the sword, but to the glass.  
He was in all respects a truly worthy man;  
A kind and steady friend,  
A generous benefactor,  
A warm patriot,  
An agreeable companion,  
A cutter of jokes,  
And a great canvasser at elections.  
In the most corrupt and abandon'd age, he  
maintain'd his independency,  
Disdain'd every bribe,  
Nor cou'd the arts and insinuations of the  
wicked induce him once to play  
The part of a *Jack-of-both-sides*,  
But ever fix'd and determined in his choice,  
And aided by the arms of *Bacchus*,  
He gain'd many profelytes to the cause for  
which he dy'd;  
He was a good *Christian* in his day,  
And rather inclined to the church, than to the  
*synagogue*!  
A man of virtue,  
Tho' a lover of the wenches.  
Some faults he had,  
But none that his friends could see,  
Or that his enemies can remember.  
Farewel, dear friend, thy glass is run,  
Death has a *finis* fix'd to *fun*:  
Those jokes, which o'er the mantling bowl,  
Regaled the heart and cheer'd the soul,  
That gain'd thy patriot friend a vote,  
Must with thy virtues be forgot,  
Yet, of a thousand, one in ten  
May shrug perhaps, and cry POOR BEN!

#### A RECEIPT,

To make the Marriage State easy.

MY friend, if you'd live with your wife  
without pain;  
Say nothing to vex her, yet let her complain;  
Submit to your fate, and disturb not her reign;

Be mop'd, when she's sad—and be pleased when  
she's gay, [way:  
Believe her, and trust her,—and give her her  
For want of this rule there's the devil to pay.

An occasional PROLOGUE, written and  
spoken by Mr. MURPHY, at his Benefit  
at the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, on  
Saturday the 3d of April, 1756, before  
the ENGLISHMAN FROM PARIS.

IN the first rise of plays when critic-rage,  
With Gothic fury over-ran the stage,  
Then prologues rose, and strove with vary'd art  
To gain the soft access to the heart.  
Thro' all the tuneful tribe th' infection flew,  
And each great genius—his petition drew.  
In formâ pauperis address'd the pit,  
With all the gay Antithesis of wit.  
Their sacred art poor poets own'd a crime;  
They sigh'd in simile, and bow'd in rhyme.  
For charity they all were forc'd to beg;  
And ev'ry prologue—"was a wooden leg."

But now less awful is the critic's name;  
With gen'rous hands you fan the poet's flame }  
And modern wits take easier roads to fame. }  
We've left the arts that might implore relief,  
Together with all forms, modes, shapes of grief.  
To raise your laughter now the constant trade  
is; [come, Ladies."  
" \* You're welcome, Gem'men—kindly wel-  
Or else we come to talk of *Sal* and *Sue*,  
" † Dost love 'em, boy?—by this right hand  
I do."

And yet how hard is the poor author's fate!  
What various difficulties round him wait?  
When once he's seiz'd with the poetic fit,  
Fondly he thinks his inclination—wit!  
How shall he sep'rate talents from desire?  
From real GENIUS?—Ineffectual fire?  
Shall he consult his friends?—when once 'tis  
shewn, [own.  
If some friends like, they make the hint their  
Should the piece take and be receiv'd by you,  
A *Monthly Scribler* takes it to REVIEW:  
With purblind eyes he can no sense descry,  
And impudently gives your voice the lie †.

But shall the bard these sons of slander dread,  
Who write from malice, what they write for  
bread;

Who shoot their poison'd arrows from their den  
Where the brib'd printer guides the hireling's  
pen?

In vain they strive to blast each honest name;  
Their calumny, like your applause, is FAME.  
'Tis you protect the offspring of the stage,  
And, like kind fairies, quell the Dæmon's rage.  
Would ye but smile on this poor brat to-night,  
The dogs of war may snarl, but cannot bite.

\* A line in Mr. Garrick's prologue to the  
*Winter's Tale*.

† A line in a prologue spoken by Mr. Gar-  
rick, in the character of a drunken sailor.

‡ The *Critical* and *Monthly Reviews* abused  
the farce of the *Apprentice*, which the public  
honoured with their approbation.

*The History of the ROYAL SOCIETY of London, for improving of natural Knowledge, from its first Rise. In which the most considerable Papers communicated to the Society, which have hitherto not been published, are inserted in their proper Order, as a Supplement to the Philosophical Transactions. By THOMAS BIRCH, D. D. Secretary to the Royal Society. 2 Vol. 4to. Millar.*

**T**HIS book might more properly have been intitled by the author a diary than a history, as it proceeds regularly from day to day so minutely as to number over the members present at each committee, and so slowly, that two large volumes contain only the transactions of the eleven first years from the institution of the Society.

I am yet far from intending to represent this work as useless. Many particularities are of importance to one man, though they appear trifling to another, and it is always more safe to admit copiousness than to affect brevity. Many informations will be afforded by this book to the biographer. I know not where else it can be found, but here and in *Ward*, that *Cowley* was doctor in physic. And whenever any other institution of the same kind shall be attempted, the exact relation of the progress of the Royal Society may furnish precedents.

These volumes consist of an exact journal of the Society; of some papers delivered to them, which tho' registered and preserved, had been never printed; and of short memoirs of the more eminent members, inserted at the end of the year in which each died.

The original of the Society is placed earlier in this history than in that of *Dr. Sprat*. *Theodore Haak*, a German of the *Palatinate*, in 1645 proposed to some inquisitive and learned men a weekly meeting for the cultivation of natural knowledge. The first Associates, whose names ought surely to be preserved, were *Dr. Wilkins*, *Dr. Wallis*, *Dr. Goddard*, *Dr. Ent*, *Dr. Glisson*, *Dr. Merret*, *Mr. Foster* of *Gresham*, and *Mr. Haak*. Sometime afterwards *Wilkins*, *Wallis*, and *Goddard* being removed to *Oxford*, carried on the same design there by stated meetings, and adopted into their society *Dr. Ward*, *Dr. Bathurst*, *Dr. Petty*, and *Dr. Willis*.

The *Oxford* Society coming to *London* in 1659 joined their friends, and augmented their number, and for some time met in *Gresham-College*. After the restoration their number was again increased, and on the

28th of *November* 1660, a select party happening to retire for conversation to *Mr. Rooke's* apartment in *Gresham-College*, formed the first plan of a regular society. Here *Dr. Sprat's* history begins, and therefore from this period the proceedings are well known.

Many of the papers preserved in this collection seem very curious; we have selected two, one relating to *manufactures*, and another as a specimen of the *natural history* of distant countries.

I. *Dr. Needham* read the following account of china varnish; which was ordered to be registered.

'A pint of the best rectified spirit of wine; gum lacca, the reddest and clearest four ounces; sandaraca one ounce; put all into a bolt-head, close it well, and let them infuse the space of four and twenty hours upon sand gently hot; afterwards increase the fire, that it may boil a little, till the gums be thoroughly melted; then pass it through a fine cloth, and keep it in a glass well stopped.

'The wood to be varnished must be smooth, clean, and neat (such as pear-tree) without fissure or holes; and if any be found, they must be stopped with a paste made of gum tragacanth incorporated with some of the colour you intend to superinduce. Being thus prepared, and well smoothed, warm it by the fire, then lay upon it, thus warmed, a covering of varnish, with a reasonable large and very fine pencil.

'When you would colour, add to the varnish about a seventh part as much colour as varnish, very finely ground; mingle them very well together with a muller, or smooth stone cemented to the end of a stick: then lay on four coverings of this mixture, drying it by the fire each time you lay it on.

'If any bubbles arise, or the wood be unevenly painted, rub it smooth with dried presle, i. e. the herb horse-tail.

'Then lay on four or five couches more after the same manner, which is usually sufficient for the colouring.

'When the last couch is well dried, rub it smooth with a linen cloth, or a piece of felt moistened with a few drops of salad-oil, and then dipped in fine powder of tripoly.

'Then lay on two coverings more of the simple varnish, polishing when it is dry, with oil and tripoly, as before; and last of all rub it with a dry cloth, presle, or felt.

## R E D.

' Spanish vermilion finely powdered, q. v.  
' Venetian lacca, a third or fourth part, well  
' mixed.

## B L A C K.

' Lamp-black ground with green vitriol.

## B L U E.

' Ultramarine; adding only twice as  
' much varnish as colour.

## J A P A N - C O L O U R.

' Powder of avanturine; but first lay on  
' one covering of varnish, then four cover-  
' ings of varnish and colour mixed; then  
' plane it with presse tripoly, and oil: then  
' lay on two couches more of varnish, and  
' before the last is dry, sift on the pow-  
' der of avanturine; give it fifteen or thirty  
' couches more of varnish; plane it with  
' a pumice dipped in oil, then with oil and  
' tripoly, and lastly with a dry cloth.

' Note, Green takes no varnish.

## G I L D I N G.

' White-lead, umbre, and yellow ochre,  
' *part. æq.* grind them well together, with  
' as much oil as will render the compost  
' reasonably thin; boil them gently almost  
' a quarter of an hour; then lay it on with  
' a pencil, and when it is dry take up the  
' gold with a little cotton, wet with your  
' tongue, and so lay it on.

II. ' Several inquiries concerning *Green-*  
' *land*, answered by Mr. Gray, who had fre-  
' quented those parts, were brought in by  
' Mr. Oldenburg, and ordered to be regis-  
' tered, and were as follow:

1. ' What is the heat of the sun in the  
' midst of summer in *Greenland*, compared  
' with the heat of it in *England*? Ans. When  
' calm weather, it is almost as hot as in  
' *England*, in 78 degrees of latitude, when  
' men are land-locked, and in the harbour,  
' where the hills environ them, and cause  
' the heat by reflection: but without at sea,  
' it is very cold, even in the midst of sum-  
' mer; especially when the wind blows, or  
' when it is foggy, the sun then not having  
' his power. The hottest time of the year  
' is the latter end of *July*.

2. ' What is there the most constant  
' weather in summer; whether clear,  
' cloudy, rainy, or foggy? Answer: some  
' years the weather is clear and moderate,  
' when the winds hang north-east or east,  
' and do not blow hard: but some other  
' years the winds hang southerly and west-  
' erly, and then it is foggy and very cold.  
' Here falls sometimes rain towards the  
' middle of *August*, and that in the valleys,  
' but snow on the hills at the same time.

' At the latter end of *May* there is still  
' much snow and great cold, and the sea  
' full of ice about the coast, in some places  
' twenty, in others thirty or forty miles off  
' at sea from the shore; after which time  
' the ice is commonly broke up by strong  
' winds, that beat the sea with violence  
' against the ice and the frozen coast, and  
' so free it from the same.

3. ' What constancy or inconstancy there  
' is in the winds to this or that quarter of  
' the horizon, or to this or that part of the  
' year? Answer: In *May* and *August*, the  
' eastern and north-eastern winds blow  
' much: in the other months they have  
' southern and south-western and north-  
' western winds. But generally the winds  
' are as various there as here.

4. ' What the temperature of each wind  
' is observed to be? Answer: The north  
' and north-east wind coldest, being sup-  
' posed to blow from a great tract of land,  
' where are abundance of snowy hills. The  
' east and south-east pretty warm to those  
' in the harbour, because shelter'd by the  
' hills, under which they lie.

5. ' What wind brings most ice? An-  
' swer: The east south-east.

6. ' What currents there are, and which  
' way they set, and how fast? whether they  
' always run one way? Answer: There is  
' but one constant current, which sets away  
' from the east south-east, and runs up to  
' the north north-east as far as 77 degrees  
' latitude, where it is chequed; and from  
' thence sets away again on the east side  
' of *Greenland*, between *Dukes Cove* and  
' *Greenland* to the south-west; and then  
' wheeling about the south point of *Green-*  
' *land*, sets up again north north-west-ward  
' to the foreland of 80 degrees latitude:  
' and then from the south end of the fore-  
' land, it drives away to the west north-  
' west. This current, when there is much  
' ice upon the coast, is more forcible; but  
' runs very easy when the ice is gone from  
' the coast. It runs always one way.

7. ' What is observable about the tides,  
' spring or neap? how high the water-mark  
' is above the low-water? which way it  
' flows? which way it ebbs? what time of  
' the moon the spring tides are made in?  
' Ans. The tides flow from the north-west  
' to the south-east, and then they ebb back  
' to the north-west. The spring tides are  
' highest about the sixth tide after the full  
' and change. The highest tides are but  
' six foot; in some parts not above three or  
' four foot. The spring tides differ from  
' the neap tides about two foot.

8. 'Whether the ice that floateth in the sea, be salt-water or fresh? He answereth, he conceiveth it to be only fresh water that freezeth? the cold forcing the saline parts away from the surface of the water, and the snow falling then upon it, and chilling the upper part together, which when it is once skinned over, abundance of snow falling from time to time upon it, and congealing, thickens the ice, and at length produceth vast islands of ice. The sea-water there is less salt than more southward.

9. 'What rivers there are in the summer, and what fresh water can be had? Answer: There is no other fresh water, than dissolved snow falling from the mountains.

10. 'How deep the cold penetrates into the earth? Answer: Some six or seven foot.

11. 'Whether there be any pits or mines? Answer: He knows of none but some coal-mines, which he had been digging in, not much beneath the surface of the earth.

12. 'At what distance they feel the coldness of the ice? and what alteration they find in the air, upon their approach to the ice? Answer: At the distance of three or four leagues; when they also see a kind of glaring in the air in the night-time.

13. 'What living creatures there be in Greenland? Answer: For fowl, abundance of geese and ducks, which cover whole islands, and sit as thick, and lay eggs, that you must tread upon them. Besides these there are pigeons, and a sort of fowl called the willock, white-breasted and black-backed, of the bigness of a duck, building his nest upon craggy rocks, good to eat, like in taste to the heart of an ox. There is also some small store of gray partridges, and some cormorants. For four-footed animals, there are deer, bears, foxes; the deers gray, the bears always white, the foxes, some dun, some white. The bear, where he lights upon most food, there he taketh up his winter quarters, for which he watcheth on the sea-shore, for the carcases of whales, and carrion of other beasts, coming to shore there, which he drags out, and layeth together for his food. The deer scrape away the snow in the valleys, and under it find some small sustenance: but in summer, when the sun comes there above the horizon, they have good grass, which maketh them very fat before sun-set. The

fox feeds upon the fowl, which he betrayeth, by feigning himself dead, and lying all along upon his back, and stretching out his tongue; at which when the silly fowl picketh, it becomes his prey. These animals breed the latter end of May.

14. 'What vegetables grow there? Answer: Very few: yet some flowers there are, and among them one that hath the scent of a fox; and another sort like a round striped bead; and some like daisies: some others yellow and red. No fruit.

15. 'Whether there be any thunder or lightning in those parts? Answer: None, that ever he observed.

16. 'How the land trends? Answer: It lies away south-south-east, and north-north-west.

17. 'What fish do most frequent those seas? Answer: Whales; and a particular sort of them called *Jubartes*, that are very long, which they cannot kill, being too swift and too strong: besides these, there is the sea-morse, having a lions look and scales; some salmon also; and a small fish like a smelt, which the fowl pick up.

18. 'Whether any people do, or have been known to stay there all the winter? and how they shifted? Ans. Once they themselves left there, besides their intention, seven or eight men, that were gone a hunting; at which time they weighed anchor, and went along the shore, intending to meet them, and take them in at a convenient place: but a wind and a fog arising, which made them lose the sight of land, and forced them to sea, their poor companions were left behind, but found alive at their next return; having lived upon fowl and deer, and saved themselves from being frozen by the coals they found there.

19. 'How near any hath been known to approach the pole? Ans. He told me that once he met upon the coast of *Greenland* a *Hollander*, that swore he had been but half a degree from the pole, shewing him his journal; which was also attested by his mate; where they had seen no ice nor land, but all water. This seems incredible.

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*The GRAY'S-INN JOURNAL.* By Mr. Murphy. In Two Volumes, Twelves, Price 6 s. Valliant.

THOSE who remember the entertainment which these essays gave them in the weekly publication, will be well

well pleased that they are collected into volumes, with the author's corrections. Those who have not read the single papers will probably be awakened to inquiry after them by the following specimens.

At the end of every essay are some ludicrous articles under the title of TRUE INTELLIGENCE, which are drawn up with sprightliness and humour; but as they often relate to some topic of the day already forgotten, many of them might have been omitted without loss in a book designed to last longer than such slight incidents are kept in remembrance. Some of them, however, touch upon facts that will be retained in history, and some upon subjects of general and perpetual concern. Part of them therefore can never be unseasonable, and part may shew at distant times, what was the voice of the people concerning particular events, when they were yet recent, or particular questions while they were yet in agitation.

*Fulgente trahit constructos gloria curru,  
Non minus ignotos generosis.* HOR.

*Vendidit hic auro patriam, dominumque  
potentem  
Imposuit, fixit leges pretio atque refixit.* VIRG.

**M**IRGEHAN was a peasant in the deserts of *Arabia*; he frequently begged an alms of the travellers in the passing caravan. For a long time he drove the loaded camel over mount *Pharan* for a jeweller of *Cairo*, and having at length by an amazing parsimony, got together a few sequins of gold, he followed the occupation of his master. Affairs thrived so well with him, that in the course of a few years *Mirgehan* began to assume to himself the pride of wealth, and his countenance, which formerly was humbled by poverty and a dejection of spirits, began to brighten into gleams of self-satisfaction. In order to extend his interest, and enlarge his schemes for the accumulation of wealth, *Mirgehan*, now basking under the sunshine of his fortune, resolved to remove to *Basra* where he was soon distinguished as the most eminent merchant of the place. As it is the nature of ambition to be ever restless and unsatisfied, after having, in the course of six years residence, amassed a very ample fortune, he determined with himself to change his abode once more, and settle himself,

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‘with all his immense wealth, at *Bagdad*.

‘*Mirgehan* was no sooner fixed at *Bagdad*, than the reputation of his affluence spread itself abroad. In all convivial meetings among the rest of the merchants, as soon as his lips seemed to open, every tongue was suspended with silence, every eye gazed at him with admiration, and every ear devoured the periods of his store with greedy earnestness. His voice, which naturally was as rough as the sound occasioned by a collision of billows on the ocean, now seemed as soft as the fragrant gale, which pants upon the leaves of the *Arabian* trees.

‘By this time *Mirgehan*’s credit was become so extensive, that people of all ranks and conditions deposited their money with him, and he had every day a very great number of servants counting over the sequins of gold, which he was either to receive or pay away for others. In the midst of all these smiles of fortune, it happened, that the relict of a rich merchant, lately snatched away from the face of the earth, by the angel of death, attracted his attention. Her name was *Dardane*, born in the city of *Damas*, and now in the possession of very great wealth. From the habits, which education and time had implanted in her, she was in her temper of a most greedy avarice, and a powerful ambition to be counted richer than the rest of her acquaintance; urged by these instigations, she bestowed her lovely form upon *Mirgehan*, who, in a short time, so contrived it, that the roses faded on her cheek, the lily appeared of a yellower hue, and, by slow degrees, her constitution received such severe strokes from his severity, that she totally pined away, and, in a short time, lay breathless on her bed.

‘*Mirgehan* was now happy in the completion of his wishes; he had got rid of a wife, whom, notwithstanding her exquisite beauty, his soul ever abhorred, and he exulted in the review of the vast accession to his fortune, which, through her means, he had obtained. His heat now began to expand with greater alacrity, and he resolved to spend the remainder of his days in ease, in elegance, in luxury, and every delicate enjoyment. The dainties of the east did not suffice to crown his board; he would send to the west for *turtle*, and every corner of the globe administered to his gratifications.

F

‘Not

Not far from *Bagdad*, he purchased a most elegant and magnificent house, where he determined to fix his country retreat. The rooms eternally resounded with singers and minstrels; amber and aloes contributed their rich perfumes; and his tables were covered with vases of agate, filled with the most delicious liquors. Painting and sculpture concurred to adorn his apartments. *Mirgeban* was led into all this profusion by an irresistible vanity, from which he derived many exquisite sensations of pleasure; when he found his wealth and his possessions admired, he the more readily suffered himself to be governed by this turn of mind, from a conviction, that all his grand appearance of affluence, served to extend his reputation, and that, in consequence of his extensive credit, he should have ample and frequent opportunities of re-imbursing himself, by the use he knew to make of the pecuniary confidence, which others reposed in him.

*Mirgeban* was now happy in all the enjoyments which riches could procure him; his heart danced to perpetual tunes of joy, and the meanness of his birth he thought sufficiently compensated by the lustre and dignity of his present way of life. And now, to complete his elevation, and to raise himself to that point of eminence, from which he imagined, he might look down upon most of his fellow-creatures, fortune, who had for a series of years smiled propitiously upon all the undertakings of *Mirgeban*, at length presented an opportunity.

It happened, that the emperor of *Bagdad* had occasion, on a particular emergency in his affairs, to call together an assembly of the wisest and ablest heads in his territories, in order to assist his councils, to help him in framing salutary laws, for the due regulation of his subjects, and to point out proper measures for him to levy the monies necessary towards defraying the expences of his soldiers, and other contingencies in government. The *Califf* resolved upon this step, with the advice of his vizier, and in a few days mandates were dispatched to sundry different parts, commanding the provinces and towns to depute to the general divan two persons the most renowned for sagacity and judgment. *Mirgeban* was at his country-seat, when he heard this news, and his passions being violent as the eddying sand during a

tempest, he instantly conceived a desire to be inrolled among the most distinguished politicians of *Bagdad*.

Accordingly he forthwith set out upon this expedition; but he had not gone far from his own habitation, when travelling a solitary road, over a long extended mountain, the heat of the day, together, with the fatigue he had undergone, inclined him to stop under a shady retreat, and refresh his senses with a gentle slumber. From this he was soon awakened by a strain of music, which thrilled so melodiously in his ears, that he thought gleams of paradise were opening to his dazzled sight. He looked around, and saw a reverend form advanced towards him: *Mirgeban* arose from the arbour, in which he was reclined, and instantly throwing himself on his knees, he worshipped the venerable appearance which stood before him. This personage was an holy hermit, who long inhabited a small mansion on the side of a rock, which terminated the prospect on the left side of the mountain. Being endowed with a magic power, he called forth to his sight such beautiful scenes, as looked like a new creation. *Mirgeban's* heart throbbed with holy rapture. At length the hoary sage began: "*Mirgeban*, I know thy purpose; I am acquainted with thy design in this thy journey. But reflect, O man! on the obscurity of thy birth, and the meanness of thy education. Canst thou confer light to the councils of the wise? canst thou dispel the mist from before their eyes, and let in powerful irradiations of truth upon their darkling understandings? Desist, vain man, from thy ill-founded pursuits." At these words the venerable hermit waved his wand, and suddenly the scene vanished like a morning-dream from *Mirgeban's* eyes. After having raised his arm; "now, says he, let the objects that are placed before thee instruct thy soul; there behold how easily thou mightest have squandered away all those possessions, which thy soul delights in for a mere empty bubble. There see an election for two persons to assist in the debates for the ease and happiness of the califf and his people; see the blind, the lame, the old, the infirm, the sick arriving in caravans, to vote for those who pay them highest. See how they all solemnly vow by the holy prophet, that

" money

“ money has no influence upon them ; and  
 “ yet behold how in private they grasp the  
 “ sequins of gold ! does not thy heart,  
 “ which has fixed all its affections upon  
 “ thy yellow dirt, tremble within thee, to  
 “ think that in this manner all thy wealth  
 “ might be squandered away, and thou  
 “ not be able to render the least service to  
 “ the califf, thy country, or thy family ?  
 “ that this is the fate of many, who, like  
 “ thee, have arose from mean beginnings,  
 “ and have, in their old days, proved  
 “ mere spendthrifts, thou may’st receive  
 “ ocular demonstration, by surveying those  
 “ wretches, who are now despised by their  
 “ country, detested by their relations, and  
 “ despised by the *visier*, in whose ser-  
 “ vice they exhausted all their trea-  
 “ sures,”

‘ Here *Zemroude* (for that was the her-  
 ‘ mit’s name) perceiving the affections of  
 ‘ *Mirgeban* perfectly changed, dispersed  
 ‘ into the air his new creation, returned  
 ‘ with solemn step to his cell under the  
 ‘ rock, and *Mirgeban* ordered his camels  
 ‘ to be turned towards *Bagdad*, where he  
 ‘ spent the remainder of his days in ease  
 ‘ and content ; and, at his death, he left  
 ‘ those sums of gold, which he was go-  
 ‘ ing to squander in visionary schemes  
 ‘ among his relations, who now live in  
 ‘ affluence, and the memory of *Mirgeban*  
 ‘ is respected among them.’

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*An Essay on the writings and genius of  
 POPE. 8vo. Cooper.*

THIS is a very curious and entertain-  
 ing miscellany of critical remarks  
 and literary history. Though the book  
 promises nothing but observations on the  
 writings of *Pope*, yet no opportunity is  
 neglected of introducing the character of  
 any other writer, or the mention of any  
 performance or event in which learning is  
 interested. From *Pope*, however, he al-  
 ways takes his hint, and to *Pope* he re-  
 turns again from his digressions. The  
 facts which he mentions though they are  
 seldom *anecdotes* in a rigorous sense, are  
 often such as are very little known, and  
 such as will delight more readers than  
 naked criticism.

As he examines the works of this great  
 poet in an order nearly chronological, he  
 necessarily begins with his pastorals, which  
 considered as representations of any kind  
 of life, he very justly censures ; for there  
 is in them a mixture of *Grecian* and *Eng-*

*lish*, of ancient and modern images. *Wind-*  
*for* is coupled with *Hybla*, and *Thames*  
 with *Pactolus*. He then compares some  
 passages which *Pope* has imitated or trans-  
 lated with the imitation or version, and  
 gives the preference to the originals, per-  
 haps not always upon convincing argu-  
 ments.

*Theocritus* makes his lover wish to be  
 a bee, that he might creep among the  
 leaves that form the chaplet of his mi-  
 stress. *Pope*’s enamoured swain longs to be  
 made the captive bird that sings in his fair  
 one’s bower, that she might listen to his  
 songs, and reward them with her kisses.  
 The critic prefers the image of *Theocritus*  
 as more wild, more delicate, and more un-  
 common.

It is natural for a lover to wish that he  
 might be any thing that could come near  
 to his lady. But we more naturally de-  
 sire to be that which she fondles and ca-  
 resses, than that which she would avoid,  
 at least would neglect. The superior de-  
 licacy of *Theocritus* I cannot discover, nor  
 can indeed find, that either in the one or the  
 other image there is any want of delicacy.  
 Which of the two images was less com-  
 mon in the time of the poet who used it, for  
 on that consideration the merit of novelty  
 depends, I think it is now out of any cri-  
 tic’s power to decide.

He remarks, I am afraid with too  
 much justice, that there is not a single new  
 thought in the pastorals, and with equal  
 reason declares, that their chief beauty  
 consists in their *correct and musical versifi-*  
*cation, which has so influenced the Eng-*  
*lish ear, as to render every moderate rhymers*  
*harmonious.*

In his examination of the *Messiah*, he  
 justly observes some deviations from the  
 inspired author, which weaken the ima-  
 gery, and dispirit the expression.

On *Windfor-forest*, he declares, I think  
 without proof, that descriptive poetry was  
 by no means the excellence of *Pope* ; he  
 draws this inference from the few images  
 introduced in this poem, which would not  
 equally belong to any other place. He  
 must inquire whether *Windfor-Forest* has  
 in reality any thing peculiar.

The *Stag-chace* is not, he says, *so full,*  
*so animated, and so circumstantiated as*  
*Somerville’s.* Barely to say, that one per-  
 formance is not so good as another, is to  
 criticise with little exactness. But *Pope*  
 has directed, that we should in every work  
 regard the author’s end. The *Stag-chace*  
 is the main subject of *Somerville*, and  
 F 2 might

might therefore be properly dilated into all its circumstances; in *Pope* it is only incidental, and was to be dispatched in a few lines.

He makes a just observation, 'that the description of the external beauties of nature, is usually the first effect of a young genius, before he hath studied nature and passions. Some of *Milton's* most early as well as most exquisite pieces are his *Lycidas*, *l'Allegro*, and *Il penseroso*, if we may except his ode on the nativity of CHRIST, which is indeed prior in order of time, and in which a penetrating critic might have observed the seeds of that boundless imagination, which was one day to produce the *Paradise Lost*.'

Mentioning *Thomson* and other descriptive poets, he remarks that writers fail in their copies for want of acquaintance with originals, and justly ridicules those who think they can form just ideas of valleys, mountains, and rivers in a garret of the *Strand*. For this reason I cannot regret with this author, that *Pope* laid aside his design of writing *American pastorals*; for as he must have painted scenes which he never saw, and manners he never knew, his performance, though it might have been a pleasing amusement of fancy, would have exhibited no representation of nature or of life.

After the pastorals, the critic considers the lyric poetry of *Pope*, and dwells longest on the ode on St. *Cecilia's* day, which he, like the rest of mankind, places next to that of *Dryden*, and not much below it. He remarks after Mr. *Spence*, that the first stanza is a perfect concert. The second he thinks a little flat; he justly commends the fourth, but without notice of the best line in that stanza, or in the poem.

*Transported demigods stood round,  
And men grew heroes at the sound.*

In the latter part of the ode he objects to the stanza of triumph.

*Thus song could reveal, &c.*

As written in a measure ridiculous and burlesque, and justifies his answer by observing that *Addison* uses the same numbers in the scene of *Rosamond*, between *Grindle* and Sir *Truffy*.

*How unhappy is he, &c.*

That the measure is the same in both passages must be confessed, and both poets perhaps chose their numbers properly; for they both meant to express a kind of airy hilarity. The two passions of merriment and exultation are undoubtedly different; they are as different as a gambol and a

triumph, but each is a species of joy; and poetical measures have not in any language been so far refined, as to provide for the subdivisions of passion. They can only be adapted to general purposes, but the particular and minuter propriety must be sought only in the sentiment and language. Thus the numbers are the same in *Colin's Complaint*, and in the ballad of *Darby and Joan*, though in one sadness is represented, and in the other only tranquillity; so the measure is the same of *Pope's Unfortunate Lady* and the *Praise of Voiture*.

He observes very justly, that the odes both of *Dryden* and *Pope* conclude unsuitably and unnaturally with epigram.

He then spends a page upon Mr. *Handel's* music to *Dryden's* ode, and speaks of him with that regard, which he has generally obtain'd among the lovers of sound. He finds something amiss in the air *with ravished ones*, but has overlooked or forgotten the grossest fault in that composition, which is that in this line,

*Revenge, revenge Timotheus cries,*  
he has laid much stress upon the two latter words, which are merely words of connexion, and ought in music to be considered as parenthetical.

From this ode is struck out a digression on the nature of odes, and the comparative excellence of the ancients and moderns. He mentions the chorus which *Pope* wrote for the duke of *Buckingham*, and thence takes occasion to treat of the chorus of the ancients. He then comes to another ode of *the dying Christian to his soul*, in which finding an apparent imitation of *Flatman*, he falls into a pleasing and learned speculation on the resembling passages to be found in different poets.

He mentions, with great regard, *Pope's* ode on *solitude*, written when he was but twelve years old, but omits to mention the poem on *Silence*, composed, I think, as early, with much greater elegance of diction, music of numbers, extent of observation, and force of thought. If he had happened to think on *Baillet's* chapter of *Enfants celebres*, he might have made, on this occasion, a very entertaining dissertation on early excellence.

He comes next to the *Essay on Criticism*, the stupendous performance of a youth not yet twenty years old, and after having detailed the felicities of condition, to which he imagines *Pope* to have owed his

his wonderful prematurity of mind, he tells us that he is well informed, this essay was first written in prose: There is nothing improbable in the report, nothing indeed but what is more likely than the contrary; yet I cannot forbear to hint to this writer and all others the danger and weakness of trusting too readily to information. Nothing but experience could evince the frequency of false information, or enable any man to conceive that so many groundless reports should be propagated as every man of eminence may hear of himself. Some men relate what they think as what they know; some men of confused memories and habitual inaccuracy ascribe to one man what belongs to another; and some talk on without thought or care. A few men are sufficient to broach falsehoods, which are afterwards innocently diffused by successive relators.

He proceeds on examining passage after passage of this essay; but we must pass over all these criticisms to which we have not something to add or to object, or where this author does not differ from the general voice of mankind. We cannot agree with him in his censure of the comparison of a student advancing in science with a traveller passing the *Alps*, which is, perhaps, the best simile in our language; that in which the most exact resemblance is traced between things in appearance utterly unrelated to each other. That *the last line conveys* no new IDEA is not true, it makes particular what was before general. Whether the description which he adds from another author be, as he says, more *full and striking*, than that of *Pope*, is not to be inquired. *Pope's* description is relative, and can admit no greater length than is usually allowed to a simile, nor any other particulars than such as form the correspondence.

*Unvaried rhymes*, says this writer, *highly disgust readers of a good ear*. It is surely not the ear, but the mind that is offended; the fault rising from the use of common rhymes, is that by reading the past line the second may be guessed, and half the composition loses the grace of novelty.

On occasion of the mention of an alexandrine, the critic observes, that *the alexandrine may be thought a modern measure, but that Robert of Gloucester's verse is an alexandrine, with the addition of two syllables; and that Sternhold and Hopkins translated the psalms in the same*

*measure of fourteen syllables, though they are printed otherwise.*

This seems not to be accurately conceived or expressed: an alexandrine, with the addition of two syllables, is no more an alexandrine, than with the deduction of two syllables. *Sternhold* and *Hopkins* did generally write in the alternate measure of eight and six syllables; but *Hopkins* commonly rhymed the first and third, *Sternhold* only the second and fourth: So that *Sternhold* may be considered as writing couplets of long lines; but *Hopkins* wrote regular stanzas. From the practice of printing the long lines of fourteen syllables in two short line arose the licence of some of our poets, who, though professing to write in stanzas, neglect the rhymes of the first and third lines.

*Pope* has mentioned *Petronius* among the great names of criticism, as the remarker justly observes without any critical merit. It is to be suspected, that *Pope* had never read his book, and mentioned him on the credit of two or three sentences which he had often seen quoted, imagining that where there was so much there must necessarily be more. Young men in haste to be renowned too frequently talk of books which they have scarcely seen.

The revival of learning, mentioned in this poem, affords an opportunity of mentioning the chief periods of literary history, of which this writer reckons five, that of *Alexander*, of *Ptolemy Philadelphus*, of *Augustus*, of *Leo the tenth*, of queen *Anne*.

These observations are concluded with a remark which deserves great attention: 'In no polished nation, after criticism has been much studied, and the rules of writing established, has any very extraordinary book ever appeared.'

*The Rape of the Lock* was always regarded by *Pope* as the highest production of his genius. On occasion of this work the history of the comic heroic is given, and we are told, that it descended from *Fassoni* to *Boileau*, from *Boileau* to *Garth*, and from *Garth* to *Pope*. *Garth* is mentioned perhaps with too much honour; but all are confessed to be inferior to *Pope*. There is in his remarks on this work no discovery of any latent beauty, nor any thing subtle or striking; he is indeed commonly right, but has discussed no difficult question.

The next pieces to be considered are the  
Verses

*Verses to the Memory of an unfortunate Lady, the Prologue to Cato, and Epilogue to Jane Shore.* The first piece he commends; on occasion of the second he digresses, according to his custom, into a learned dissertation on tragedies, and compares the *English* and *French* with the *Greek Stage*. He justly censures *Cato* for want of action and of characters, but scarcely does justice to the sublimity of some speeches and the philosophical exactness in the sentiments. *The simile of mount Atlas, and that of the Numidian traveller smothered in the sands, are indeed, in character, says the critic, but sufficiently obvious.* The simile of the mountain is indeed common, but that of the traveller I do not remember that it is obvious, is easy to say, and easy to deny.--- Many things are obvious when they are taught.

He proceeds to criticise the other works of *Addison*, till the epilogue calls his attention to *Rowe*, whose character he discusses in the same manner with sufficient freedom and sufficient candor.

The translation of the epistle of *Sappho* to *Phaon* is next considered; but *Sappho* and *Ovid* are more the subjects of this disquisition than *Pope*. We shall therefore pass over it to a piece of more importance, the epistle of *Eloisa* to *Abelard*, which may justly be regarded as one of the works on which the reputation of *Pope* will stand in future times.

The critic pursues *Eloisa* through all the changes of passion, produces the passages of her letters to which any allusion is made, and intersperses many agreeable particulars and incidental relations. There is not much profundity of criticism, because the beauties are sentiments of nature, which the learned and the ignorant feel alike. It is justly remarked by him, that the wish of *Eloisa*, for the happy passage of *Abelard* into the other world, is formed according to the ideas of mystic devotion.

These are the pieces examined in this volume; whether the remaining part of the work will be one volume or more, perhaps the writer himself cannot yet inform us. This piece is however a complete work, so far as it goes, and the writer is of opinion, that he has dispatched the chief part of his task; for he ventures to remark, that the reputation of *Pope*, as a poet, among posterity, will be

principally founded on to his *Windsor-Forest*, *Rape of the Lock*, and *Eloisa to Abelard*, while the facts and characters alluded to in his late writings will be forgotten and unknown, and their poignancy and propriety little relished; for wit and satire are transitory and perishable, but nature and passion are eternal.

He has interspersed some passages of *Pope's* life, with which most readers will be pleased. When *Pope* was yet a child, his father, who had been a merchant in *London*, retired to *Bthfield*. He was taught to read by an aunt, and learned to write without a master, by copying printed books. His father used to order him to make *English* verses, and would oblige him to correct and retouch them over and over, and at last could say, 'These are good rhymes.'

At eight years of age he was committed to one *Taverner* a priest, who taught him the rudiments of the *Latin* and *Greek*. At this time he met with *Ogleby's Homer*, which seized his attention; he fell next upon *Sandys's Ovid*, and remembered these two translations with pleasure to the end of his life.

About ten, being at school near *Hilepark-corner*, he was taken to the playhouse, and was so struck with the splendor of the drama, that he formed a kind of play out of *Ogleby's Homer*, intermixed with verses of his own. He persuaded the head-boys to act this piece, and *Ajax* was performed by his master's gardener; they were habited according to the pictures in *Ogleby*. At twelve he retired with his father to *Windsor-Forest*, and formed himself by the study in the best *English* poets.

In this extract it was thought convenient to dwell chiefly upon such observations as relate immediately to *Pope*, without deviating with the author into incidental inquiries. We intend to kindle, not to extinguish curiosity, by this slight sketch of a work abounding with curious quotations and pleasing disquisitions. He must be much acquainted with literary history both of remote and late times, who does not find in this essay many things which he did not know before; and if there be any too learned to be instructed in facts or opinions, he may yet properly read this book as a just specimen of literary moderation.

*The general history of Polybius, in five Books, translated from the Greek by Mr. Hampton. 4to. Doddsley.*

THIS appears to be one of the books which will long do honour to the present age. It has been by some remarker observed, that no man ever grew immortal by a translation; and undoubtedly translations into the prose of a living language must be laid aside whenever the language changes, because the matter being always to be found in the original, contributes nothing to the preservation of the form superinduced by the translator. But such versions may last long, tho' they can scarcely last always; and there is reason to believe that this will grow in reputation while the *English* tongue continues in its present state.

The great difficulty of a translator is to preserve the native form of his language, and the unconstrained manner of an original writer. This Mr. *Hampton* seems to have attained in a degree of which there are few examples. His book has the dignity of antiquity, and the easy flow of a modern composition.

It were, perhaps, to be desired that he had illustrated with notes an author which must have many difficulties to an *English* reader, and particularly that he had explained the ancient art of war: But these omissions may be easily supplied by an inferior hand from the antiquaries and commentators.

To note omissions where there is so much performed, would be invidious, and to commend is unnecessary where the excellence of the work may be more easily and effectually shewn by exhibiting a specimen. Our readers may judge from the following passage, not collected for any peculiar excellence, whether we have exalted this performance above its merit.

'*Annibal* had fixed his winter quarters in *Cisalpine Gaul*. During his continuance there, the *Romans*, that had fallen into his hands, were all confined in prisons, and scarcely received the food that was necessary to life. But their allies were treated by him with the greatest gentleness. After some time, having assembled these together, he told them; "That his intention was not to make war upon any of them; but on the contrary, to engage in their defence against the *Romans*: that their interest therefore, if they would judge with reason, must lead them to embrace his friendship: since the sole

purpose of his coming, was in the first place to restore to all the inhabitants of *Italy* their ancient freedom; and to assist likewise each particular state to recover again those towns and territories of which the *Romans* had deprived them." After this discourse, he dismissed them all to their several countries, without demanding any ransom: imagining that by this conduct he should gain them to his party, and inspire their minds with an aversion to the *Roman* government; or that those especially might be excited to revolt, whose ports and cities had been taken from them by the *Romans*,

At the same time, he practised also another artifice which was truly *Carthaginian*. Having reflected with himself, that his connection with the *Gauls* was fresh and recent; and fearing, lest a people so noted for their fickleness and fraud should on a sudden change their sentiments, and form designs against his life, he procured some artificial suits of hair, adapted to the looks of persons of every age, and different sorts of habits that corresponded with them: and varying his dress continually, he lay so well concealed under this disguise, that not those alone, who had seen him only in a transient view, but even his intimate acquaintance could scarcely know him.

'But the *Gauls*, not willing that the war should any longer be protracted in their country, began to grow importunate and clamorous, and demanded to be led against the enemy. This zeal, as they pretended, all arose from the resentment, which they had conceived against the *Romans*. But the real motive was no other than the hope of plunder. *Annibal* however resolved to gratify their impatience, and to begin his march without delay. As soon therefore as the spring advanced, having inquired of those that were best acquainted with the country, he was informed, that all the common roads were not only of considerable length but well known also to the *Romans*: but that, if he would venture to conduct the army over certain marshes, which would lead directly to *Tyrrhenia*, his march, tho' difficult indeed, would yet be short; and such also as must fully disappoint the expectations of the enemy. As the difficulty only served to flatter the natural disposition of this general, he resolved that he would take his rout that way.

'As soon as this design was known among the army, the soldiers were all seized

' seized with consternation; and formed  
 ' in their minds the most dreadful image  
 ' of the pits and pools into which they  
 ' seemed ready to be plunged. But *Annibal*,  
 ' being well assured that the bottom  
 ' of the marshes was firm and solid, began  
 ' his march; placing in the van the *Africans*  
 ' and *Spaniards*, with the most ser-  
 ' viceable part of all his army; and mix-  
 ' ing among them as much of the baggage  
 ' only, as might serve for their supply in  
 ' the present journey. For with regard to  
 ' future use, he considered, that if they  
 ' should prove victorious and hold the o-  
 ' pen country against the enemy, their ne-  
 ' cessities would all be fully satisfied: and  
 ' in case that they were conquered, that they  
 ' would then be in want of nothing. After  
 ' these marched the *Gauls*; and last of all,  
 ' the cava ry. The care of the rear was  
 ' left by *Annibal* to his brother *Mago*:  
 ' chiefly on account of the effeminacy of  
 ' the *Gauls*, and their known impatience  
 ' of toil and hardship. For the orders gi-  
 ' ven to *Mago* were, that he should press  
 ' them closely from behind, and as often  
 ' as they appeared disheartened by the dif-  
 ' ficulties of the way, or shewed any in-  
 ' clination to return, should fall upon them  
 ' with his cavalry, and by force constrain  
 ' them to advance.

' The *Africans* and *Spaniards* pursued  
 ' their way without any immoderate pain  
 ' or difficulty. For besides that the ground  
 ' was fresh, and not yet broken, they were  
 ' all men that were inured to toil, and by  
 ' long use become familiar with such kind  
 ' of hardship. But when the soil had been  
 ' disturbed by the passage of the foremost  
 ' troops, and troden through to a confi-  
 ' derable depth, the *Gauls* that followed  
 ' were unable to advance a step, without  
 ' extreme fatigue and labour: which were  
 ' the heavier also, and more severely felt,  
 ' because they had never been accustomed  
 ' to such sufferings. Nor was it possible  
 ' for them to return, while the cavalry still  
 ' pressed upon them from behind, and  
 ' forced them to advance. Indeed all the  
 ' army suffered much: chiefly thro' want  
 ' of sleep. For during four whole days,  
 ' and three nights successively, they march-  
 ' ed continually through water. But the  
 ' *Gauls* were harassed beyond all the rest,  
 ' and even quite exhausted by their miseries.  
 ' The greater part of the beasts, that were  
 ' loaded with the baggage, stuck fast in  
 ' the mud, and perished there. But their  
 ' mischance afforded some convenience to  
 ' the troops: who threw themselves down

' in heaps together, upon the bales that  
 ' lay above the water; and thus, during  
 ' some part of the night at least, obtained  
 ' a little sleep. Many of the Horses also  
 ' left their hoofs behind them in this dread-  
 ' ful journey. Even *Annibal* himself, who  
 ' was carried upon the only elephant that  
 ' remained alive, was saved with the great-  
 ' est difficulty: having suffered during all  
 ' the march great pain and anguish, from  
 ' a disorder that had settled in his eyes.  
 ' And as the time afforded neither leisure  
 ' nor convenience for a cure, he was at last  
 ' deprived by it of the sight of one of  
 ' them.

' Having now gained however, almost  
 ' beyond all expectation, the end of this  
 ' dangerous march, and hearing that *Fla-  
 ' minius* was still posted near *Arretium*, he  
 ' at first incamped upon the edge of the  
 ' marshes, that he might give some ease  
 ' and refreshment to his troops; and at the  
 ' same time employed all his pains, in  
 ' searching into the designs and disposition of  
 ' the enemy, as well as the condition of the  
 ' country that lay before him. He was soon  
 ' informed that the country was rich and  
 ' fertile, and such as would afford a noble  
 ' booty: and that *Flaminius* was a man,  
 ' who was singularly formed by nature for  
 ' gaining popular applause, and was im-  
 ' moderately ambitious of it: that he was  
 ' filled with a high conceit of his own a-  
 ' bilities; but in reality was destitute of  
 ' all those talents that are requisite in the  
 ' affairs of war and real service. *Annibal*  
 ' therefore was persuaded, that if he could  
 ' once advance beyond the camp of the  
 ' *Romans*, and waste the country before  
 ' their eyes, *Flaminius*, provoked beyond  
 ' all patience, and dreading the reproaches  
 ' of the multitude, would run with haste  
 ' to revenge the insult; would pursue all  
 ' the motions of the *Carthaginian* army;  
 ' would flatter himself with the hope of  
 ' finishing the war alone, before his colleague  
 ' could arrive; and in a word, that he  
 ' would thus afford to his enemies the op-  
 ' portunities that were desired, of attacking  
 ' him with some advantage.

' It is certain that these reflections were  
 ' perfectly the result of wisdom and sound  
 ' experience. For all men, even of mo-  
 ' derate discernment, must acknowledge,  
 ' that nothing is more useful or of greater  
 ' importance in the conduct of a general,  
 ' than to examine with the nicest care in-  
 ' to the character and natural disposition  
 ' of the opposite commander. For as in  
 ' engagements of single men, or of rank  
 with

with rank, the several combatants carefully survey the bodies of their adversaries, in order to discern some part that may be open to their stroke; in the same manner also, it is necessary that a general in the field should endeavour to discover in the Chief that is sent against him, not what parts of his body are most vulnerable, but whether there be any weakness in his mind and character, through which he may be attacked with some advantage. For among those that are placed at the head of armies, there are some who are so deeply immersed in sloth and indolence, that they lose all attention both to the safety of their country, and their own. Others are immoderately fond of wine; so that their senses always are disordered by it, before they sleep. Others abandon themselves to the love of women: a passion so infatuating, that those whom it has once possessed, will often sacrifice whole cities, and even their honour and their lives to the indulgence of it. Some again are cowards: which is esteemed no slight disgrace, even among private men. But in a general, this disposition is a public evil; and draws after it the most fatal consequences. For the troops under his command not only waste the time without attempting any thing, but, by their confidence in such a leader, are frequently betrayed into the greatest dangers. On the other hand, a precipitate rashness, a violence that rejects the rule of reason, pride, and vanity, and self-conceit, are all qualities not more pernicious to the friends of those who possess them, than advantageous to the enemy. For men of this character are always ready to be taken in every snare. Every bait is sure to catch, and every artifice to delude them.

If a general therefore could be informed of all the weakness of his enemy, and would so regulate his designs, as always to attack the opposite commander in the part in which he is most open to surprise, no power would long be able to withstand his efforts. For as a vessel that has lost its pilot, soon becomes an easy conquest, together with all the crew; so likewise in the field, if the chief can once be taken by his foible, and led artfully to the snare that is most proper to intrap him, both himself, and all his army, must in a short time fall together into the power of the enemy. This therefore was the address which *Annibal* now exerted against *Flaminius*; and his success was such, as fully answered even his strongest hopes.

VO L. I.

G

MEMOIRS of the Court of Augustus. By Thomas Blackwell, J. U. D. Principal of Marishal-college in the University of Aberdeen. 2 vols. 4to. Millar.

THE first effect which this book has upon the reader is that of disgusting him with the author's vanity. He endeavours to persuade the world, that here are some new treasures of literature spread before his eyes; that something is discovered, which to this happy day had been concealed in darkness; that by his diligence time has been robbed of some valuable monument, which he was on the point of devouring; and that names and facts doomed to oblivion are now restored to fame.

How must the unlearned reader be surprised, when he shall be told that Mr. *Blackwell* has neither digged in the ruins of any demolished city; nor found out the way to the library of *Fez*; nor had a single book in his hands, that has not been in the possession of every man that was inclined to read it, for years and ages; and that his book relates to a people who above all others have furnished employment to the studious, and amusements to the idle, who have scarcely left behind them a coin or a stone, which has not been examined and explained a thousand times, and whose dress, and food, and household stuff it has been the pride of learning to understand.

A man need not fear to incur the imputation of vitious diffidence or affected humility, who should have forbore to promise many novelties, when he perceived such multitudes of writers possessed of the same materials, and intent upon the same purpose. Mr. *Blackwell* knows well the opinion of *Horace*, concerning those that open their undertakings with magnificent promises, and he knows likewise the dictates of common sense and common honesty, names of greater authority than that of *Horace*, who direct that no man should promise what he cannot perform.

I do not mean to declare that this volume has nothing new, or that the labours of those who have gone before our author, have made his performance an useless addition to the burden of literature. New works may be constructed with old materials, the disposition of the parts may shew contrivance, the ornaments interspersed may discover elegance.

It is not always without good effect that men of proper qualifications write in succession on the same subject, even when the

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the latter add nothing to the information given to the former; for the same ideas may be delivered more intelligibly or more delightfully by one than by another, or with attractions that may lure minds of a different form. No writer pleases all, and every writer may please some.

But after all, to inherit is not to acquire; to decorate is not to make, and the man who had nothing to do but to read the ancient authors, who mention the *Roman* affairs, and reduce them to common places, ought not to boast himself as a great benefactor to the studious world.

After a preface of boast, and a letter of flattery, in which he seems to imitate the address of *Horace*, in his *vile potabis modicis Sabinum*---he opens his book with telling us, that the '*Roman* republic, after the horrible proscription, was no more at *bleeding Rome*. The regal power of her consuls, the authority of her senate, and the majesty of her people, were now trampled under foot; these [for those] divine laws and hallowed customs, that had been the essence of her constitution---were set at nought, and her best friends were lying exposed in their blood.'

These were surely very dismal times to those who suffered; but I know not why any one but a schoolboy in his declamation should whine over the commonwealth of *Rome*, which grew great only by the misery of the rest of mankind. The *Romans*, like others, as soon as they grew rich grew corrupt, and, in their corruption, sold the lives and freedoms of themselves, and of one another.

'About this time *Brutus* had his patience put to the *biggest* trial: he had been married to *Clodia*; but whether the family did not please him, or whether he was dissatisfied with the lady's behaviour, during his absence; he soon entertained thoughts of a separation. *This* raised a good deal of talk, and the women of the *Clodian* family inveighed bitterly against *Brutus*--but he married *Portia*, who was worthy of such a father as *M. Cato*, and such a husband as *M. Brutus*. She had a soul capable of an *exalted passion*, and found a proper object to raise and give it a sanction; she did not only love, but adored her husband; this worth, his truth, his every shining and heroic quality, made her gaze on him like a god, while the endearing returns of esteem and tenderness she met with, brought her

joy, her pride, her every wish to centre in her beloved *Brutus*.'

When the reader has been awakened by this rapturous preparation, he hears the whole story of *Portia* in the same luxuriant style, till she breathed out her last, a little before the *bloody proscription*, and '*Brutus* complained heavily of his friends at *Rome*, as not having paid due attention to his lady in the declining state of her health.'

He is a great lover of modern terms. His senators and their wives are *gentlemen* and *ladies*. In this review of *Brutus's* army, who *was under the command of galant men, not braver officers, than true patriots*, he tells us 'that *Sextus* the *questor* was *paymaster, secretary at war, and commissary general*, and that the *sacred discipline* of the *Romans* required the closest connection, like that of father and son, to subsist between the general of an army and his *questor*. *Cicero* was *general of the cavalry*, and the next *general officer* was *Flavius*, *master of the artillery*, the elder *Lentulus* was *admiral*, and the younger rode in the band of *volunteers*; under these the *tribunes*, with many others too tedious to name.' *Lentulus*, however, was but a subordinate officer; for we are informed afterwards, that the *Romans* had made *Sextus Pompeius* lord high *admiral*, in all the seas of their dominions.

Among other affectations of this writer is a furious and unnecessary zeal for liberty, or rather for one form of government as preferable to another. This indeed might be suffered, because political institution is a subject in which men have always differed, and if they continue to obey their lawful governors, and attempt not to make innovations for the sake of their favourite schemes, they may differ for ever without any just reproach from one another. But who can bear the hardy champion, who ventures nothing? Who in full security undertakes the defence of the assassination of *Cæsar*, and declares his resolution to *speak plain*? Yet let not just sentiments be overlooked: He has justly observed, that the greater part of mankind will be naturally prejudiced against *Brutus*, for all feel the benefits of private friendship; but few can discern the advantages of a well constituted government.

(To be continued.)

[Other Books and Pamphlets to be reviewed next Month.]

HISTO-

## HISTORICAL MEMOIRS.

From January 1, 1756.

The authentic Papers that follow are to be considered as *Materials for the History of the present Times*, which is one Part of our Plan to preserve. To these the inquisitive Reader will find frequent occasion hereafter to refer; though perhaps they may convey no *new Information* at this particular Juncture.

LETTER from M. Rouille Minister and Secretary of State for foreign affairs in France, to Mr. Fox Secretary of State to the King of England, dated the 21st of December 1755.

Sir,

**B**Y the command of the King, my master, I have the honour to send your Excellency the following memorial, &c.

The King is able to demonstrate to the whole universe, by authentic proofs, that it is not owing to his majesty that the differences relating to *America* have not been amicably accommodated.

The King, being most sincerely desirous to maintain the public peace, and a good understanding with his *Britannic Majesty*, carried on the negotiation relative to that subject, with the most unreserved confidence and good faith.

The assurances of the King of *Great Britain's* disposition to peace, which his *Britannic* majesty and his ministers were constantly repeating both by word of mouth and in writing, were so formal and precise, that the King could not, without reproaching himself, entertain the least suspicion of the sincerity of the court of *London's* intentions.

It is scarce possible to conceive how these assurances can be reconciled with the orders for hostilities given in *November 1754*, to General *Braddock*, and in *April 1755*, to Admiral *Boscawen*.—The attack and capture, in *July* last, of two of the King's ships in the open seas, and without a declaration of war, was a public insult to his Majesty's flag; and his Majesty would have immediately manifested his just resentment of such an irregular and violent proceeding, if he could have imagined that Admiral *Boscawen* acted by the orders of his court.

For the same reason the King suspended his judgment of the piracies (*pirateries*) that have been committed for several months, by the *English* men of war, on the navigation and commerce of his Majesty's subjects, in contempt of the law of nations, the faith of treaties, the usages established among civiliz'd nations, and the regard they reciprocally owe to one another.

The sentiments of his *Britannic Majesty* gave the King room to expect that at his return to *London* he would disavow the conduct of his admiralty and naval officers, and give his Majesty a satisfaction proportioned to the injury and damage.

But seeing that the King of *England*, instead of punishing the robberies (*brigandages*) committed by the *English* navy, on the contrary encourages them, by demanding from his subjects fresh supplies against *France*; his Majesty would fall short in what he owes to his own glory, the dignity of his crown, and the defence of his people, if he deferred any longer the demanding of a signal reparation for the outrage done to the *French* flag, and the damage done to the King's subjects.

His Majesty, therefore, thinks proper to apply directly to his *Britannic Majesty*, and demand from him immediate and full restitution of all the *French* ships, as well men of war as merchantmen, which contrary to all law and all decorum have been taken by the *English* navy, and of all the officers, soldiers, mariners, guns, stores, merchandises, and in general of every thing belonging to those vessels.

The King will always choose to owe to the King of *England's* equity, rather than to any thing else, that satisfaction which he hath a right to demand; and all the powers in *Europe* will undoubtedly see in this step, which he hath determined to take, a new and striking proof of that invariable love of peace which directs all his counsels and resolutions.

If his *Britannic Majesty* orders restitution of the vessels in question, the King will be disposed to enter into a negotiation for that further satisfaction which is legally due to him, and will continue desirous, as he hath always been, to have the discussions relating to *America*, determined by an equitable and solid accommodation.

But, if contrary to all hopes, the King of *England* refuse what the King demands, his Majesty will regard this denial of justice as the most authentic declaration of war, and as a formed design in the court of *London*, to disturb the peace of *Europe*.

*Mr. Fox's Answer, to M. Rouille's LETTER, dated at Whitehall, Jan. 13, 1756.*

Sir,

I Received on the 3d instant the letter, dated the 21st past, with which your excellency honoured me, together with the memorial subjoined to it. I immediately laid them before the King, my master; and by his command, I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that his Majesty continues desirous of preserving the public tranquillity. But though the King will readily consent to an equitable and solid accommodation, his Majesty cannot grant the demand that is made of immediate and full restitution of all the *French* vessels, and whatever belongs to them, as the preliminary condition of any negotiation; his Majesty having taken no step but what the hostilities begun by *France*, in a profound peace, (of which he hath the most authentic proofs) and what his Majesty owes to his own honour, to the defence of the rights and possessions of his crown, and the security of his kingdoms, rendered just and indispensable.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Though it had been resolved in council, that the requisition made by the *French* court, and the terms in which it was expressed, were such as did not permit the King to answer it any otherwise than by Mr. Fox's letter; it has however been thought necessary to expose to the several courts of *Europe* the falsehood of the imputations and facts therein contained. For this end the ministry have caused remarks to be made on the principal articles of its contents.

*The first remark which turns on the preamble of the requisition, as far as the period beginning with the assurances of the King of Great Britain, &c. is as follows.*

Whatever may have been, or are now the sentiments of the most Christian King, with regard to the differences concerning *America*, it is unlucky that the conduct of the court of *Versailles* towards *Great Britain*, corresponds so ill to the disposition which Mr. Rouille's memorial ascribes to his most Christian Majesty, and to the professions of good faith and unreserved confidence, with which it was pretended the negotiation was on their part carried on: if it be from the course of this negotiation that the authentic proofs are to be drawn by which the most Christian King is able to demonstrate to the whole world, that it is not owing to him, that the differences in question, have not been amicably accommodated, it may not be improper briefly to touch upon some parts thereof. Every fact will bear witness to his *Britannic* Majesty's moderation.

In the month of *January* 1755, the *French* Ambassador returned to *London*, and made great

protestations of his court's sincere desire finally and speedily to adjust all disputes between the two crowns concerning *America*; and notwithstanding the extraordinary preparations which were at that time making in the ports of *France*, her Ambassador proposed, That before the ground and circumstance of the quarrel should be inquired into, positive orders should be immediately sent to our respective governors, forbidding them to undertake any new enterprise, or proceed to any act of hostility; and enjoining them, on the contrary, to put without delay, with regard to the lands on the *Ohio*, on the same footing that they were, or ought to have been, before the late war; and that the respective claims should be amicably referred to the commissioners at *Paris*, that the two courts might terminate the difference by a speedy accommodation.

The *British* court immediately declared its readiness to consent to the proposed cessation of hostilities, and that all the points in dispute might be discussed and terminated by the ministers of the two crowns; but on this condition, That all the possessions in *America* should previously be put on foot of the treaty of *Utrecht*, confirmed by that of *Aix-la-Chapelle*. Wherefore the King proposed, 'That the possessions of the lands on the *Ohio* should be restored to the footing it was on at the conclusion of the treaty of *Utrecht*, and agreeably to the stipulations of the said treaty, which was renewed by that of *Aix-la-Chapelle*; and moreover, that the other possessions in *North America*, should be restored to the same condition in which they actually were at the signing of the said treaty of *Utrecht*, and agreeably to the cessions and stipulations therein expressed; and then the method of informing the respective governors, and forbidding them to undertake any new enterprise or act of hostility, might be treated of; and the claims of both parties reserved to be speedily and finally adjusted in an amicable manner between the two courts.' That is to say, That *France* should repair the injury done by open force before the parties should enter into treaty about the claim or right, after which the possessions of both parties might be settled on the foot of a definitive agreement.

To this the *French* Ambassador delivered a kind of a reply, which at bottom was only a repetition of his first proposal; but to soften the thing, he produced at the same time full powers from his court to treat, conceived in very specious and polite terms.—The effects however, were as little correspondent thereto as before; and *France* soon after delivered a draught of a preliminary convention, which was nothing but the first proposal enlarged; this, added to what was doing in the ports of *France*, was too plain to deceive any; *England*, therefore, would by no means agree to a convention that would have left

to the *French* the fruits of their violences and usurpations, which were precisely the grievance she complained of; and, after the expiration of which, she would have been just where she was when it was signed. A draught of a counter convention was afterwards delivered to the ambassador, containing an offer of the most moderate terms, being confined to those points only which were his Majesty's indispensable right, and essential to the security of his colonies.

To this *France* did not deign to make any answer; and her ambassador was authorised only to hear what was said to him about it, but to make no proposals. In fine, after a long series of evasions, in which the cessation of hostilities was continually recurred to, the ambassador, instead of receiving instructions to enter into a negotiation upon the counter convention above-mentioned, was ordered to demand, as a previous condition, that *England* should desist from three points, which made a principal part of the subject in dispute, *viz.*

1. The south coast of the river *St. Lawrence*, and the lakes that discharge themselves into that river.

2. The twenty leagues of country demanded along the bay of *Fundi*; and,

3. The lands between the *Ohio* and *Oubeko*.

The discussions, with which this extraordinary claim was followed, and during which *France* shuffled at every turn, concluded with the ambassador's presenting a memorial, in which the affair of the islands, as well as that of *America*, was treated of. This was answered by a very ample piece, wherein the ambassador's memorial was refuted article by article, and the terms of the counter convention fully justified.

And by the ambassador's sudden departure this piece hath remained without an answer.

*The second remark, which begins where the first left off, and includes the two next paragraphs, as far as the attack and capture in July last, &c. goes on thus:*

The assurances given to *France* of his *Britannic* Majesty's pacific disposition, were as honest and sincere as they were formal and precise; but he must have condemned himself, had he carried them so far as to endanger the possession of his crown, and the safety of his people.

It is to no purpose that *France* gives the epithet of hostile to the orders given to *Gen. Braddock* and *Admiral Boscawen*; she would be glad to draw a veil over the hostilities committed by her in *America*, from the peace of *Aix-la-Chapelle* to the date of these orders. Almost from the very instant of signing that treaty, and even at the opening of the commission, which in consequence of it was established at *Paris* for the affairs of *America*, *France* distrusted before-hand her right, and, setting up for the Judge as well as the Party

in her own cause, caused the province of *Nova Scotia* to be invaded; and, after a series of open hostilities against the inhabitants, the King's subjects erected three forts in the heart of the province; and, if she had not been prevented, was going to destroy the new settlement at *Hallifax*. The like hostilities were committed, at the same time, against his Majesty's lands and subjects on the *Ohio* and the *Indian* lakes; where *France*, without any shadow of right, forbid the *English* to trade, seized them by force, and sent them prisoners to *France*, invaded the territories of *Virginia*, attacked a fort which covered its frontier, and, to secure their usurpations, erected with an armed force a chain of forts on the lands they had invaded.

If his Majesty could have thought that the governors of *Canada* acted by orders of their Court, he would have been intitled to repel these hostilities with that vigour the case required. He contented himself with complaining to the court of *France*; but with so little effect, that the *French* ministry, not satisfied with not vouchsafing to make any answer, gave on this occasion a very singular instance of their honesty; for, in spite of these complaints made by the late Earl of *Albermarle* (in consequence of an order from his master) particularly by an express memorial delivered in *May* 1752, *France* had afterwards the modesty to alledge, that *England* had never complained of these proceedings, and consequently had nothing to find fault with. At last the King's patience being worn out by the continuance of these violences, he found himself obliged to provide for the security and defence of his subjects. But, notwithstanding the just reasons he had for coming to extremities, he added to his many years forbearance a signal proof of his moderation, in the smallness of the succours he sent to *America*, which consisted only of two battalions of 500 men each, escorted by two frigates: and, in the orders given to the commanding officer, which were to dislodge the invaders of the King's territories, there is nothing in these facts irreconcilable with the assurances given of his Majesty's disposition to peace. It is the invasion made by *France*, and the violences that attended it, which are hostile; and it can never be unlawful to repel an aggressor.

*The third remark answers the three next periods of the memorial, beginning with the attack and capture in July last, &c.*

To make out the pretended insult offered to his most Christian Majesty's flag, *France* is obliged to invert the order of things. She affects to take the consequence and effect for the cause; and alledges, as the principal affair, what was only accessory, and proceeded from it, taking occasion from the small succours *General Braddock* carried to *America*, to make the sending those succours the rise of the

the troubles in that part of the world, *France* equips a fleet of a very alarming force, and the King, in consequence thereof, is obliged to make proportionable armaments. *France* sends that fleet to *America*, after putting on board it three times the number of troops General *Braddock* carried thither, in order to support the acts of violence already committed, and to add new ones.

Now the same law, the same principle of self-defence, which authorises the resisting of an invader, equally authorises the preventing of the party attacked from being over-powered by so formidable a reinforcement. It was therefore very natural to expect, that the King would provide for the protection of his subjects, by hindering the landing of so powerful an armament in *America*, and endeavour to preserve his *American* settlements from total ruin. Add to this, that it is difficult to comprehend why an *English* fort, and *English* provinces in *America*, should be attacked by an invading power, and not a ship of war on the banks of *Newfoundland*, by an officer authorised by a prince who defends himself, and protects his subjects.

The same motive of self-defence hath forced the King to seize the *French* ships and sailors, in order to deprive the court of *France* of the means of making a descent, with which their ministers in all the courts of *Europe* have menaced *England*. A menace which is the most significative to *Eng'and*, as it hath been accompanied or preceded by the precipitate recall of the ministers of *France* at *London* and *Hanover*; by the march and cantonment of large bodies of troops on the coast of *Flanders*, and the channel; and the publicly-avowed reestablishment of the port of *Dunkirk*. For the rest, it is hard to imagine, why the *French* should conceive that the King ought to disavow the conduct of his officers, who acted by his orders; or why they should wonder at his Majesty's demanding the necessary supplies from his subjects, to enable him to frustrate the ambitious and unjustifiable views of *France*.

How can that court pretend to be surprised at the acts of violence it complains of, after the court of *Great-Britain* had, during the whole course of the negotiation, constantly rejected the proposals made by *France* for a suspension of arms, unless it were preceded by a restitution of the possessions taken by open force from *Eng'and*? A condition to which the court of *Versailles* would never agree. This was informing that court very plainly what method the King purposed to take, in order to obtain his just right.

*The fourth remark respects the remaining part of the memorial, beginning with these words: But seeing that the King of England, instead of punishing the robberies, &c. to the end.*

For these just and valid reasons, the King rejected the peremptory demand contained in

the memorial signed by *M. de Rouille*. To avoid taking notice of the terms made use of in it, which shock common decency, his Majesty caused a short and negative answer to be made to it in the form of a letter, written by *Mr. Fox*, his secretary of state; and he is the more determined not to admit what *France* demands as a preliminary condition prior to any negotiation, as it appears from this very memorial, that after granting it he would be as far as ever from obtaining an equitable and solid accommodation, with respect to the injuries he had suffered for several years. And it does not appear how his Majesty's resolution to defend his *American* dominions, and hinder *France* from insulting his kingdoms, can be construed in *France* to be a denial of justice, and a formed design in the King to disturb the peace of *Europe*.

About the time that *M. Rouille* dispatched his letter to *Mr. secretary Fox*, the Count *d'Affry* was sent into *Holland* as ambassador extraordinary, and at his first audience in *December*, just before the assembly of the States broke up, he delivered to their High Mightinesses the following memorial.

*High and Mighty Lords,*

THE King my master, having been attacked and outraged by the *English*, as well in the seas of *Europe*, as in those of *America*, with as much injustice as indecency, and contrary to all good faith, without being able to obtain a suitable satisfaction, has resolved to avenge the dignity of his crown, and to procure a just indemnity to his subjects for the great losses which they have sustained for many months past by the piracies of the *English*. His Majesty will no longer hesitate at making his resentment felt wherever it is in his power, in order to obtain reparation for these injuries, which however, he would have been much better satisfied to have received from the equity of his *Britannic* Majesty.

Tho' the King has certainly a right to claim the guaranty stipulated in the 23d article of the treaty of *Aix-la-Chapelle*, the *English* having infringed the 9th and 10th articles, his Majesty wishes, from the bottom of his heart, that this particular quarrel may be prevented from producing a general war. The *English* are incontestably the aggressors, and as such have no right whatever to reclaim the assistance of the allies, and guarantees of the said treaty of *Aix-la-Chapelle*.

Your High Mightinesses are moreover not ignorant of the engagements that subsist between yourselves and his Majesty. The King flatters himself also that you have not forgot how dear that complaisance cost you, by which you were drawn in to take a share in the last war, and that this consideration will determine you to conduct yourselves, in the present circumstances of things, in such a manner as may consist with your own advantage,

tage, and that consequently you will not be persuaded, by pernicious counsels, to take a part contrary to your own interests. Moreover prudence requires that his Majesty should be informed what your intentions are in this respect, that he may take his measures accordingly. For these reasons we desire your High Mightinesses will explain yourselves in confidence, but categorically, what system you intend to embrace, in a case a war should break out between the crowns of *France* and *Great Britain*.

The answer given by the *States General* was to this effect.

Their High Mightinesses thank the King for the new marks of his royal good-will, which he has been pleased to give them, by the overtures made to them, in his name, by Count *d'Affry*. They acknowledge the obligations they are under to his Majesty for the confidence, with which he has honour'd them, and the concern he has shewn for the welfare of the republic. They protest that, in order to merit the continuance thereof, they are firmly resolved to make every sacrifice that is consistent with the honour and glory of an independent state. They behold with concern the differences that have arisen between *France* and *Great Britain*, and wish for nothing more than to see them terminated by an amicable convention. They are unwilling to apprehend the consequences that might attend an attack upon the continent of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, and dread the kindling up a war, in which they may unwillingly be involved. They allow, that, considering their situation, the bad state of their finances, and the decay of the commerce of their subjects, nothing could be more agreeable to them than a perfect neutrality; lastly, that they will not depart from such a neutrality, until they are obliged to do so by good faith and the religion of inviolable engagements which they lie under, by treaty, to several powers.

While these things were in agitation, Colonel *York*, the *British* Resident in *Holland*, received instructions from his court to demand the stipulated succours for the defence of these kingdoms, in case of an attack from *France*, thus openly threatened, and on the 13th of *February* presented a very pressing memorial, of which the following is a copy.

*High and Mighty Lords,*

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the repeated proofs which the King, my master, hath given all *Europe* of his sincere desire to preserve the public peace, and notwithstanding the great pains he hath taken to prevent the tranquillity of his allies from being disturbed by war, and to remove every ground of it from this part of the world, he finds himself at length threatened with the prospect of a war being kindled in his own kingdoms.

I am commanded to communicate to your

High Mightinesses, the advices which his Majesty receives from all quarters, of the prodigious preparations that are making in *France* for a descent on the *British* isles. That crown, instead of doing justice to *England* for her claims, founded on the most solemn treaties, hath added insolence to injustice, and, even in the representations it hath thought proper to make, employed expressions that are equally inconsistent with common decency and the particular regard due to sovereigns. This hath been observed by your High Mightinesses as well as by all *Europe*. You have likewise seen with what moderation the king caused these representations to be answered; but an example so worthy of imitation appears not to have made the least impression on the ministry of *Versailles*, *France* still continues to pursue with the same ostentation her ambitious projects. Her armies are already in motion on all sides; a formidable embarkation is preparing; and the port of *Dunkirk*, that monument of our neighbours ill faith, is restoring to its ancient state, notwithstanding the strongest and most amicable representations made by the ambassadors of the king and the states general. The registers of your high mightinesses are an evidence, that this is a notorious breach of treaty, and a manifest aggression. It is supported by 120 battalions that are in motion. The coasts towards the ocean swarm with troops, the roads to *Flanders*, *Normandy*, and *Britany*, are continually covered with carriages laden with cannon, warlike stores, arms of all kinds, provisions, in short, all the apparatus of some great enterprise; and to remove all doubt about their destination, the *French* ministers at the several courts of *Europe* speak publicly of invading *Great Britain* and *Ireland*.

The wisdom of your high mightinesses renders it unnecessary for me to represent how much your republic is concerned in the defence of *Great Britain*, and the protestant succession in his majesty's illustrious house, which *France* hath more than once attempted to overturn—There is already the strongest proof that this attempt will soon be renewed; prudence requires that it be seasonably prevented.

The king is not frightened by these threatening appearances, but he is determined to take every precaution to prevent their effect. He places his confidence in the divine Providence, in the justice of his cause, and the fidelity and bravery of his subjects. At the same time, the love he bears to his people, his attention to their safety, and to the preservation of their liberty and religion, and his desire to protect all his coasts from the ravages of the enemy, are so many powerful motives which oblige him to demand the succours of 6000 men, with which the united provinces are bound by treaty to furnish him for the defence of his kingdoms.

His majesty hath had so many proofs of the reput-

republic's fidelity in fulfilling her engagements and of her invariable friendship for his royal person, that he cannot entertain the slightest doubt but that the 6000 men will be immediately got ready to embark, and his Majesty will without delay send the necessary shipping for carrying them over.

The count *D'Affry* alarmed at this peremptory requisition of the *English* minister, and not satisfied with the answer he had received from their high mightinesses, dispatched an express to *Paris* for fresh instructions; on the return of which he waited on the Grand Pensionary, to inform him that he was ordered to demand an éclaircissement of that part of their high mightinesses answer that relates to the succours which *Great Britain* had demanded by virtue of the treaties subsisting between her and the republic. On the 27th of *February*, he had a long conference on the same subject with the president of the week, and delivered to him the following letter.

Sir,

THE King has considered with the most serious attention, the answer returned by order of the States General, in a conference on the 9th of this instant, to the Count *D'Affry*, his minister plenipotentiary to their republic.

It is with satisfaction his majesty has observed therein the desire expressed by their High Mightinesses, of seeing the differences that have arisen between *France* and *England* terminated by an amicable accommodation. The whole conduct of his majesty since the conclusion of the treaty of *Aix la Chapelle* in 1748, is a public and shining monument of his wishes for the preservation of the tranquillity of *Europe*. These principles of his majesty have been invariable, nor were a fresh war now to be apprehended, if the King of *Great Britain* had not begun, and did not still continue to exercise the most unjustifiable and the most irregular hostilities against his majesty's possessions and subjects.

The King is convinced, that the States General are far from engaging in a war for an object that does not oblige them to it — His majesty knows of no other treaties between their High Mightinesses and *England*, but such as are defensive; and as the King of *Great Britain* is evidently the aggressor, his majesty has reason to assure himself, from the equity and discernment of the States General, that very far from furnishing directly or indirectly, any succours to the court of *London*, they would on the contrary, upon being required thereto fulfil the engagements, equally defensive, which they have contracted with his majesty.

His majesty is disposed to enter into all measures, the particular motives and ends of which shall be the security, the tranquillity and the welfare of the republic. The King,

from the time of his accession to the throne, has constantly interested himself for the independence and honour of the States General, and his Majesty still animated by the same sentiments of esteem and affection towards their High Mightinesses, most sincerely desires, that the republic, *whose fate is in her own hands*, may continue to conduct itself by those maxims of impartiality and wisdom, by which alone they can maintain that honour and independence, of which they are with so much reason jealous.

The present conjuncture of affairs not being the same as in 1733, when the King concluded a treaty of neutrality with the States General, with regard to the *Austrian* netherlands, all precautions on that head would at present be superfluous.

His Majesty could not but see, with the greatest surprise, what was inserted in the answer of the States General, relative to the continent of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*. No power upon earth has a right to restrain the operations his Majesty designs to execute, in order to take a lawful revenge on an enemy that has insulted and attack'd him against the faith of treaties and all decency; for what remains, his Majesty does not think proper to explain himself about the object of those preparations, which denounce his just resentment.

*M. d'Affry read what follows from a separate paper.*

THAT his Majesty expects their High Mightinesses will explain themselves with more precision upon the part they intend to take in the present conjuncture. His Majesty, forced to revenge himself on an enemy, who has unjustly attacked him, desires sincerely not to multiply the calamities of war, but he can no longer reckon among the number of his friends those powers, who far from fulfilling the defensive engagements they have contracted with him, would make a common cause with, and furnish succours to, his enemy.

On this critical occasion the states divided themselves into parties: those who were most inclined to favour the *English* interest, were yet unwilling to sacrifice the repose of the republic to an ill-tim'd complaisance, they knew that the succours demanded were of little or no consequence to the security of *Great Britain*; and, they presumed that if the *French*, in resentment, should fall upon any of their provinces, *Great Britain* must assist in repelling the invaders with a more formidable force; they therefore wisely concluded to let the matter drop, and the *British* ministry instead of insisting upon the strict execution of treaties, thought proper to apply for assistance from another quarter where no such obstacles interposed.

[To be continued.]

# Chronological Diary from the 1st of Jan. 1756.

JANUARY 2. **A**T four in the afternoon, at *Tuam* in *Ireland*, an unusual light, brighter than the brightest day, struck the beholders with amazement. It faded away by insensible degrees; at seven, from west to east, a sun of streamers appeared across the sky, which undulated like the waters of a rippling stream. This was a dreadful alarm; some left *Tuam*, others flocked to it from the villages, terrified by the streamers, which after continuing about 18 minutes, grew on a sudden discoloured. The edges of this phenomenon were first tinged with a bright cerulean, then with a fine azure, and lastly with a flame colour, discharging itself in a blaze towards the north; a most uncommon shock immediately succeeded, but no damage ensued. At *Ballimore* seven acres of ground were laid under water, about the same time that this phenomenon happened at *Tuam*, by which 200 head of cattle perished.

On the 4th, Warrants were issued for impressing landmen.

On the 11th, a large pond near *Framlingham*, *Suffolk*, in which an extraordinary motion was observed the 1st of *November*, was again agitated in the same manner, and in a direction contrary to the wind, which at that time was pretty strong.

On the 15th, at 8 at night, a ball of fire was seen at *Milverton* in *Somersetshire*, its apparent magnitude equal to that of the moon; its direction was from the S. W. to N. E. it must be somewhat above the clouds, because it could be seen only between them; it was about three quarters of a minute in passing from the zenith (near which it was first discovered) to the place of its extinction, which was very near the horizon; it left a considerable train of dark vapours like smoke, but was attended with no noise.

On the 19th, an express from *Lisbon* brought the king of *Portugal*'s thanks to our most gracious sovereign, and the whole nation, for the present voted by parliament for the relief of his distressed subjects.—This present was in consequence of the dreadful earthquake which happened at *Lisbon* on the 1st of *November* 1755.

On the 21st, between 9 and 10 at night, two people coming from the other side of the *Tay* to *Perth*, in *Scotland*, discerned a light, clear as the sun, which struck them with consternation, and gazing at this strange appearance, they saw sparks of fire falling towards the moon, which was then newly risen. The master of a vessel says, that returning to the shore about the same time, he observed the same light, which illuminated the whole town, and all the adjacent places, as if it had been day.

On the 22d, ten new regiments of foot were ordered to be raised for the defence of these kingdoms, and 91,919 *l.* voted by parliament for defraying the expence.

On the 26th, many in the parish of *Lumpknan* and *Kincarden*, in *Scotland*, were surprized with thunder and lightning, which were more frightful than any they had heard and seen,

but especially the last; they imagined the loch of *Auchloffen* all on fire, as also some of the hills around them, and that it was either an earthquake or the day of judgment. The next night, a little after twilight, a fiery meteor was seen apparently as big as a full moon, going from west to east, which enlightened the ground like mid-day.

On the 27th, his Majesty in council ordered that *Charles Knowles*, Esq; governor of *Jamaica*, be permitted to resign the said government, agreeable to his request.

At four in the afternoon a shock of an earthquake was felt at *Bailyborough* in *Ireland*, which occasioned an adjacent lough to overspread its banks, and rush into the town with great impetuosity. In returning it swept away two men, leaving behind a great quantity of pike and eels of a prodigious growth.

On the 31st, the Lord Viscount *Townshend* proposed to give two prizes of 20 guineas each, to two members of the university of *Cambridge*, of any rank or degree, who shall compose the best dissertation in *English* prose on the theory of trade; which are to be read publicly by them on a day hereafter to be appointed, near next commencement: The vice-chancellor has given notice, that the subject for this year is, *What causes principally contribute to render a nation populous? And what effect the populousness of a nation has on its trade?*

## FEBRUARY 3.

A proclamation was issued, requiring all officers civil and military, upon the first appearance of any hostile attempt to land upon the coasts of this kingdom, immediately to cause all horses, oxen, and cattle, which may be fit for draught or burthen, and not actually employed in the king's service, or in the defence of the country, and also, (so far as may be practicable) all other cattle and provisions, to be driven and removed 20 miles at least from the place where such hostile attempt shall be made, and to secure the same, so as they may not fall into the hands or power of those who shall make such attempt; regard being had, however, that the respective owners may suffer as little damage as may be consistent with the public safety.

On the 8th, at *Barbadoes*, a fire broke out from a store-house belonging to *Joseph Blackman*, Esq; wherein was a large quantity of cotton, landed by proper orders from a *French* ship: The fire soon increased, and seized the dwelling house of *Mr Sammel Nufum* adjoining thereto; from thence the flames caught the opposite and adjacent houses of *Messrs. Haggatt, Lampey, Walter*, and *Codrington Carrington*, Esq; and afterwards took its course westward to *James's fort*; which being consumed, the fire still increasing, burnt the houses down in *Crown Alley* up to *Cheapside*: Its progress was then eastward, burning and raging in a most dreadful manner on the south of *Broad-street*, towards the high house called the coffee-house; which communicated the flames to the house of *Mr Blackman*, and that of *Rich. Husbands*, Esq; the secretary, where the publick records were kept; then the house and stores of *Gen. Barwick*,  
H  
Mess.

Mess. *Lary, Black*, and some other adjoining houses, which put the whole town in danger of being consumed to ashes. However, by the providence of God, a stop was put to the rapidity of the fire, and it abated about five o'clock next morning. It is computed, that about 160 houses have been burnt. It is, however, a happy circumstance, that the public records were carried away during this general calamity; and the secretary has since been heard to say, that there is no loss or embezzlement of any of them as he can yet discover.

On the 10th was a very high wind, by which great damage was done to churches, dwelling-houses, and out-buildings, in many parts of the country, and many trees were forced up by the roots, and carried to an incredible distance from the place where they grew. Some people affirm, they saw several flashes of lightning, that the sky seemed to separate, and that several lucid streams emitted from the openings. This hurricane caused a general consternation, and people's fears naturally suggested to them the apprehensions of an earthquake or inundation.

At a court of common council held at *Guildhall*, a bill for raising 2443 *l.* 14 *s.* for supporting the *London* workhouse, passed into an act.

On the 11th, happened the most violent storm ever known at *Ros* in *Ireland*; among other effects, there were blown out of the thatch of a cabin (belonging to one of the rogues confin'd in *Wexford* goal for robbing the custom-house) in gold and silver, upwards of 50 *l.* which was carried to the collector.

On the 18th, about 8 in the morning, a slight shock of an earthquake was felt at *Dover* and at *Margate*, but without doing any damage.

At *Amsterdam* the same shock was likewise felt. It was preceded by most strange corruscations in the atmosphere; the lightning flashing out of dark clouds, and sometimes illuminating the whole hemisphere; at other times darting perpendicularly to the earth, and appearing to set the ground on fire, and it is remarkable, that most of the persons perceiving it, were affected with a momentary dizziness, or swimming in the head.

Between 7 and eight in the morning was felt at *Paris*, a tremulous motion of the earth, which lasted 2 or three seconds; but it was so gentle that many did not perceive it. It was much more violent on the high grounds in the island of *St Lewis*, and in the neighbourhood of that city. The students belonging to the united colleges of *Boncourt* and *Navarre*, and those of *St Barbe*, ran into the court-yard of *Navarre* college half naked. The nuns of the convent of *la Roquette*, were so frightened, that they were ready to run out of the convent. At *Versailles* the shock was felt by the queen and the whole court.

The effects of this earthquake were much more affecting at *Cologn*. To say nothing of the castle of *Niedecken*, which is almost entirely overturned, and of three or four others, and several houses, which have nearly shared the same fate, or of the churches that are damaged in their roofs, steeples and

walls, five or six oil manufactories near *Eschweiler* are thrown down, a vortex is formed in the *Eyffel*, and an opening is made in the *Bretsberg* mountain, situate between *Duren* and *Monjoi* 50 foot deep, 150 broad, and 400 paces long. The earth and stones, and the trees that grew on the spot, form at present a kind of dyke round the mouth of the opening. This natural mine burst with such violence, that the stones were crushed to pieces, and the trees shivered, or broke, and stript of their bark.

On the same day and about the same hour the shock was perceived at *Sandwich*, at *Margate*, at *Hyth*, at *Canterbury*, and several other places in *Kent*. Its direction was from E. to W. but scarce any but those in bed perceiv'd it.

At *Maestricht*, *Liege*, *Verviers*, *Aix la Chapelle*, and *Lymburgh*, it was more sensibly felt, and for several days afterwards the inhabitants of those cities either felt, or thought they felt, repeated shocks, which threw many into great consternation.

On the 19th, about 3 o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in the compting-house of *Mr Howell*, a timber-merchant in *Black Fryars*, supposed to happen by the carelessness of a servant who is missing. It has consumed a great many houses, as also the timber-yards of *Mr Howell*, *Mr Norman*, and *Mr Territt*. Some of the piles of timber falling into the *Thames*, were carried by the tide burning thro' *London* bridge, and set some ships on fire.

*Extract of a Letter from Mr Consul Aspinwall to Mr Secr. Fox, dated Algier, Feb. 22, 1756.*

"The plague being lately broke out here, I am obliged to shut up myself and family in my house, on account of that dreadful calamity, (all the consuls and merchants having done the same) This distemper has since increased." — In consequence of this intelligence an order of council has been issued for enforcing the quarantine on all ships from *Algiers* and the ports of *Barbary*.

On the 23d, one of the powder-mills at *Moulsey Heath* blew up, and did considerable damage.

A vessel from *Campbeltoun* in *Scotland*, with 12 lasts of herrings on board, was split in twain by lightning, and sunk. The men got into their small boats, and were not only saved, but escaped without being hurt.

A fire at *Grand Cairo* in *Egypt* has burnt 6000 houses to the ground.

On the 28th, four thief-takers, (*Macdaniel*, *Berry*, *Salmon*, and *Egan*) received sentence, each to stand twice on the pillory, two at a time, to be imprisoned seven years in *Newgate*, to find security of 1000 *l.* each for their good behaviour for 7 years, and to pay a fine. — Their crime was enticing two young lads to commit a robbery, and then prosecuted them for the sake of the reward.

At *Cologn*, on the same day, a phenomenon terrified the populace. Between 7 and 8 at night, the sky being very clear, there was observed towards the West, a fiery meteor of the apparent bigness of four or five inches, from which a tail of about ten inches extended towards the north, and a smaller towards the south. It suddenly disappeared from the eyes  
of

of the beholders without having had any sensible motion during its appearance, and without emitting any sparks or smoke.

MARCH 3. An embargo was laid on all the shipping in the ports of *England* and *Ireland*, and the hottest preps begun for seamen that ever was known, all protections being disregarded, and the hands pressed from the merchantmen to the very mate and master. At the same time an order was sent to the justices of the respective counties to take up all able bodied vagrant poor, and to send such of them as refuse to serve in the army, on board the tenders. Orders were likewise sent to *Scotland* to lay an embargo on all shipping there.

On the 5th, *Berry* and *Macdaniel*, two thief-takers, were put into the pillory, opposite the end of *Hatton Garden*, pursuant to their sentence, and were severely pelted by the populace, many of whom suffered by the greatness of the crowd. *Macdaniel* received a terrible wound in his forehead with a stone, and *Berry*, who was weak before, was scarce able to survive it.

On the 8th, *Egan* and *Salmon*, the other two thief-takers concerned with *Macdaniel* and *Berry*, stood in the pillory in *Smithfield*, when the former soon received a mortal wound, of which he soon after died, and the latter many miserable bruises. The populace were so exasperated against these miscreants that the peace officers in vain endeavored to restrain their fury. The coroner's jury who sat upon the body of *Egan* brought in their verdict wilful murder against persons unknown.

On the 9th, his majesty went to the house of peers, and gave the royal assent to, an act for granting two millions to be raised by way of annuities and a lottery; an act to enable his majesty to grant commissions to a certain number of foreign protestants to serve in *America*; an act to oblige ships more effectually to perform quarantine; an act for the more speedy recruiting his majesty's land forces and marines; an act for the regulation of his majesty's marine forces while on shore, and to several other acts.

On the 10th, a petition of the governors and trustees of the Foundling hospital was presented to parliament, setting forth, that the petitioners, in the execution of their trust, have expended great sums of money, which have arisen from his majesty's bounty and the benefactions and legacies of well disposed persons; but that many proper objects, from the insufficiency of their income, have to their great concern been rejected; that the petitioners, from the accounts they have received from foreign countries, where charities of the like nature are established, do find that the numbers of children supported thereby are very great, and the expences attending the same too large to be expected from private donations only, and therefore have had the constant assistance of their respective legislatures, and therefore praying the house to take such measures for the extension and support of the said charity as they shall think proper; which petition was ordered to be taken into consideration.

On the 11th, admiral *Howe* in the *St George*, with the *Northumberland*, *Vanguard*, *Somerset*, *Chichester*, *Edinburgh*, *Medway*, *Hampshire*, *Newcastle*, and *Swan* sloop, sailed from *St Helen's*. He has under his convoy, 3 *East India* ships, and all the trade bound to the westward. He was met off *Plymouth* by admiral *Moffyn*, in the *Monarque*, with the *Revenge*, *Orford*, *Culloden*, *Dunkirk*, *Prince Frederick*, *York*, *Rockester*, *Sheerness*, *Ipswich*, and *Defiance*.

Extract of a Letter from Mr Castres to Mr Secretary Fox, dated Lisbon, March 15, 1756.

"His most faithful majesty having signified his pleasure, that before any distribution was made among the *Portuguese*, I would let M. de *Carmalho* know what quantity of provisions I should think might be allotted for the poor of our nation, Mr Hay, and two or three more of the members of this factory, had a meeting about it at my house, where we agreed to apply for a thirtieth part of the whole, which was immediately ordered to a particular warehouse, and the key of it delivered to Mr *Barratt*, a gentleman of this factory, who has acted, from the beginning, as supervisor to the cargoes, to see that they were punctually delivered to the *Portuguese* officers. As to the money, the part of it that is to be assigned for his majesty's subjects, will amount to something more than two thousand pounds sterling, and shall be put into Mr Hay's hands, as soon as the government shall have ordered this sum to be made over to us."

On the 22d the two golden medals given annually by his grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, chancellor of the university of *Cambridge*, for the encouragement of classical learning, were determined in favour of Mr *Webster* of *Bennet* college, and Mr *Impey* of *Trinity*.

On the 23d, a loyal address of the members of the *Breconshire* society, formed for the encouragement of agriculture and manufactures, was presented to his majesty.

On the 30th, Lord *Robert Bertie's* regiment embarked on board Admiral *Byng's* Squadron at *Portsmouth*, one company excepted, reserved for the *Intrepide*. The marines on board were put on shore to make room for these.

APRIL 1. A joint address was presented to his Majesty from both houses of Parliament, beseeching his Majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to order a body of his *Hanoverian* forces to be brought over to be in readiness to assist in the defence of his Majesty's *British* dominions, &c.

On the 3d, the *Rockester* man of war and *Swan* sloop, were ordered to look into the harbour of *Brest*, to discover the strength of the fleet there; and reported, that there were eighteen sail, of 60 guns and upwards, besides frigates.

On the 5th, the Admirals *Byng* and *West*, with 10 ships of the line, besides frigates, sailed from *Portsmouth* with a fine gale at N.E. as did likewise Commodore *Keppel* in the *Torbay*, with the *Essex*, *Gibraltar*, and *Unicorn*, on a cruise.

On the 6th, the Rt Hon. the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of *London* waited on his

his majesty and presented the following address:

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

Your Majesty having been graciously pleased to acquaint your two houses of parliament, that a design hath been formed by the French court, to make an hostile invasion upon Great Britain or Ireland; we your majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons, of the city of London, in common council assembled, beg leave to express our abhorrence of so unjust and desperate an enterprize, projected in revenge for your royal and gracious protection of the trade and commerce of your people, and the necessary defence of the undoubted rights and possessions of your crown.

With gratitude, and unfeigned loyalty, we most humbly assure your majesty, that the citizens of your faithful city, united in duty and affection to your sacred person and government, will exert their utmost power, and hazard their lives and fortunes, to support and defend your majesty, and the Protestant succession in your royal family, not doubting, but by the zeal and loyalty of your majesty's subjects, conducted by your known wisdom and courage, with the assistance of the divine providence, you will be able to defeat all the designs of your enemies.

To which address his majesty was pleased to return this most gracious answer.

*I thank you for this very loyal and dutiful address. I have the firmest reliance on the affectionate assurances you give me, of exerting yourselves to the utmost in support of my government; and the city of London may always depend upon my favour, countenance, and protection, and my constant care to defend the rights and possessions of my crown, and promote the trade and commerce of this kingdom.*

On taking the petition of the trustees for the Foundling hospital into consideration, (see p. 49.) the house came to the following resolutions: That enabling the said hospital to receive all children that shall be offered, is the only method to make that charitable institution of general utility; that in order to this, assistance of parliament is necessary; and that to render the good effect universal, it should be enabled to appoint proper places in all counties, ridings, or divisions, for the reception of all exposed and deserted children.

On the 8th, the merchants of London waited on his majesty with their address on the present critical conjuncture of affairs.

John Symonds, otherwise Spanish Jack, was executed at Maidstone in Kent, for stealing a silver tankard from a public house in Rochester. As he was an old offender, and knew most of the thief-takers about London, he was particularly asked, at the place of execution, concerning them; when he declared, that, at the instigation of Macdaniel and others, he did in Sept. 1751, entice Wm Holmes, John Newton, and Francis Mandeville, to commit a robbery in Whitechapel, who, in a few days afterwards, were apprehended by the gang of thief-takers, and were all three capitally convicted upon his evidence at the ensuing sessions in October, and afterwards executed at Tyburn, and tho' they had 420*l.* reward, he received only 10*l.*—

*Surely this enormous crime (so frequently practised) deserves the immediate consideration of the legislature.*

On the 15th, sailed the *Terrible*, Adm. Holbourne, *Torbay*, *Grafton*, *Eagle*, *Monmouth*, *Nottingham*, and *Essex*, with the transports having on board his majesty's forces for North America.

The lords being met, a message was sent to the Hon. House of Commons, by the Hon. Sir Henry Bellenden, gentleman usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them, that, *The Lords, authorized by virtue of his Majesty's Commission, for declaring his Royal Assent to several Acts agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the House of Peers, to bear the Commission read; and the Commons being come thither, the said commission, empowering his R. H. the Duke of Cumberland, the Lord Archbp of Canterbury, the Lord High Chancellor, and several other Lords, to declare and notify the Royal Assent to several public and private bills, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to,*

An act for granting to his majesty several rates and duties on silver plate.—By this act, five shillings is to be paid for every hundred ounces as far as 4000, and all persons within the district of the chief office of excise in London, are to enter their plate at that office, and all other persons at the next office to where they live, and at the same time to pay the duty, and to pay every year within thirty days after the commencement of the year. The first entry to be made within forty days after the 5th of July next, under the penalty of 20*l.* half to the informer; to be determined in London before the commissioners of excise, or in any court of record, with liberty of appeal from the commissioners of excise to those of appeal, and all other places in England, by two justices of the peace, with appeal to the quarter sessions.—The forfeitures are to be levied by distress on goods; but if no goods are found, then the person to be committed to jail till the money is paid.—No notice or entry is necessary for any new acquisition of plate within the year. Persons receiving plate in pawn, without using it, are not liable to pay the duty, but the owners thereof are.—Church plate not to pay the duty; nor the stock in trade of any goldsmith or manufacturer of plate, except for what shall be used by them or their families.—No oath is to be taken at the entry of any plate, nor officer authorized to enter any house to search for plate.

An act for granting a duty of 20*s.* on ale licences.

An act for granting an additional duty on cards and dice.

An act for taking off the duties on the importation of foreign raw linnen yarns made of flax.

An act for the better supply of mariners and seamen, to serve in his majesty's ships of war.

An act to prevent his majesty's subjects from serving as officers under the French king.

An act to empower his majesty to prohibit the exportation of salt-petre, and to enforce the law for empowering his majesty to prohibit

bit the exportation of gunpowder, or any sort of arms and ammunition.

An act to empower judges of courts of record in cities and towns corporate, to set fines on persons summoned to serve upon juries in such courts, who shall neglect to attend.

An act to obviate a doubt arisen on an act, made in the last session of parliament, intitled, an act for relief of insolvent debtors, and for relief of sheriffs and keepers of prisons, in respect to escapes of such persons as were prevented by the said doubt from being discharged under the said act.

The royal assent was at the same time declared to 32 other acts relating to fens, rivers, roads, &c. and to 30 private bills.

On the 13th, At *Milton* in *Buckinghamshire*, near *Newport Pagnell*, about eleven in the forenoon, a rumbling noise, like thunder at a distance, was heard at the bottom of that town, near the pond, where a man and his wife went out of doors, and perceived the tops of the willows to shake, and heard an hissing in the pond, as if a large ball of red-hot iron had been thrown into it, from which there arose a smoke, and the water seemed to boil, throwing up waves seven or eight feet high; and at near the same time the like agitation was perceived in the ford leading to *Broughton*, by a person who was at work hard by.

On the 21st, one *Venables*, a corkcutter, having been at his club, about 11 at night came home, and missing his wife, thought he heard her voice in the apartment of Mr *Buckle*, a young officer, his lodger; thither he went, and in his rage, on finding them in bed together, he ript up the belly of Mr *Buckle* with his knife, who notwithstanding endeavour'd to get to a surgeon, but died by the way. *Venables* wander'd about the fields all night in the utmost confusion, and in the morning voluntarily surrender'd himself to Justice *Fielding*.

On the 24th, in *St James's park*, the serjeants and corporals of the first regiment of foot guards, performed, for the first time, the manual exercise of the *Prussians*; and we hear all the regiments of the crown are to be instructed in the said exercise.

On the 27th, the lottery tickets for the present year began delivering at the bank.

On the 30th, about nine in the evening, a second shock of an earthquake was felt at *Paris*, and tho' it was not more violent than that which happened the 18th of *Feb.* last, many more people were sensible of it, particularly those who lodged in the upper apartments. This shock was felt by the king and queen, and the dauphiness.

*An authentic Relation of the Destruction of Quito in Peru, dated May 30, 1755.*

"The 26th of *April* at 8 in the morning, the first alarm was given by some violent shocks, which lasted three minutes. Soon after several more, but less violent, which continued with very little intermission the rest of the morning. The 27th, at five in the afternoon, there was so violent a shock, that most of the inhabitants ran out of town: between 11 and 12 at night the earth quaked again du-

ring five minutes. After a short interval came another shock, and then fourteen more successively. All the night long the priests and fryars were employed in preaching to the people, and hearing confessions in the streets and squares, and nothing was heard but sighing and groaning among the multitude. The 28th was the fatal æra of the ruin of the city. One cannot think without horror of that tremendous day; churches, public edifices, private houses, all were successively overthrown. At this dismal spectacle the magistrates opened the prisons, and set at liberty all persons that were not detained for capital crimes. The vicar-general, in the bishop's absence, gave the nuns permission to leave their cloysters. Happily, in the common calamity, no more than 14 or 15 souls perished. All the inhabitants are actually dispersed in the fields under tents and booths. The governor has sheltered upwards of 600 persons in his country house, and maintains them at his own expence. From the 28th of *April* to the 30th of *May*, scarce a day passed without some shock of earthquake."

At *Romsdalen* in *Norway*, a torrent of water suddenly rushed out of a neighbouring mountain, by which not only the greatest part of the houses were destroyed, and all the cattle for about two miles round drowned, but many of the inhabitants were likewise born away by the stream. They do not attribute this strange event to an earthquake, as the nature of such phænomena are but little known in that remote country.

MAY 1. Came on the tryal of *Venables* for the murder of cornet *Buckle*, when the jury brought in their verdict manslaughter.

On the 11th, a message was sent by his majesty to both houses of parliament, signifying, "That his majesty being desirous to be prepared against all attempts and designs whatsoever that may be formed by his enemies in the present critical conjuncture, and considering that sudden emergencies may arise, which may be of the utmost importance, and be attended with the utmost pernicious consequences if proper means should not be immediately applied to prevent or defeat them; his majesty hoped that he shall be enabled by his parliament to concert and take such measures as may be necessary to disappoint or defeat any enterprizes or designs of his enemies, and as the exigency of affairs may require."—To which message both houses voted a loyal and dutiful address.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

*Admiralty-Office, May 8.* By a letter from the Hon. *Augustus Hervey*, Capt. of his Majesty's ship the *Phoenix*, dated from *Villa Franca*, *April* 18, there is advice, That he was sent from *Mahon* by Com. *Edgewcombe* to *Leghorne*, to take in stores, and had proceeded to *Villa Franca*, in order to receive any letters he should find there from *England* for the commodore; that finding the *French* fleet had sailed from *Toulon* on the 13th for the island of *Minorca*, he intended sailing that evening, and endeavouring to get into the harbour of *Mahon*; or if it should be so blocked up by the *French* as to make

make it impossible for his ship to get in, he should try in some other manner to convey to Mr Edgecumbe the news of a fleet being actually sailed from England for their assistance and relief, and endeavour to get the commodore's orders for his farther proceedings: That if he should not be able to receive those orders, he would then go into *Gibraltar*, and cruize in the gulf, in hopes of meeting the *English* fleet.—He sends also the following list of the *French* fleet, viz.

Line of Battle Ships.			
Guns.		Guns.	
Le Foudroyant	80	Le Triton	64
La Couronne	74	Le Lyon	64
Le Redoubtable	74	Le Contant	64
L'Hercule	64	Le Sage	64
L'Achille	64	L'Alcion	50
Frigats.			
La Pomone	36	La Gracieuse	24
Le Zephir	30	La Nymphe	20
La Rose	30		

About 180 transports, 90 of which are tartans and settees: They have a *Majorca* xebecque, which is said to serve as a pilot for the craft.

He adds, That the whole number of troops, labourers, &c. &c. &c. shut up in the castle of *St Phillips*, amounted to 5000 men; that the *French* army doth not exceed 11,000; so that he thinks the attack upon the castle of *St Phillips*, will scarce be effectual, before the fleet, under admiral *Byng*, will probably arrive; and that all necessary precautions were taking when he left *Mahon*, for the defence of fort *St Phillips*, and the best disposition made for that of the harbour.

#### LIST of DEATHS in the Year 1756.

Jan. 16. **L**ord Milington, eldest son to the Earl of Portmore.

18. John Philipps of Low Layton, Esq; he left 1000*l.* to the Foundling hospital, and 1000*l.* in reversion.

24. Rich. Beckford, Esq; at Lyons in France, alderman of London, and member for Bristol.

25. Lady of Hon. John Barry, Esq; she was one of the daughters and coheiresses of the late Hugh Smith of Wield Hall in Essex, Esq;

Feb. 2. Sir Rich. Trelawney of Trelawney, Cornwall, Bart.

5. Geo. Morton Pitt, Esq; member in several parliaments for Pontefract, Yorkshire, and formerly governor of fort St George, East Indies.

Mrs Wilson, widow, who left 600*l.* to each of the churches of St Andrew's, Holbourn, St Bride's, Fleet-street, and also to two others, for additional prayers; 400*l.* per Ann. during life to her companion, and several other legacies.

8. John Philipps, Esq; near Acton; he left 100*l.* to the Foundling hospital.

14. Mr Charles Mitchel, at Dover, master of the Swin bridge and pier head. By his own invention of a line, when ships have been coming for the harbour in distress, and boats could not go to their relief, he has saved many a man's life, and many a ship and cargo.

28. Rt Rev. Dr Joseph Wilcocks, Bishop of Rochester, and dean of the collegiate church of St Peter, Westminster.

29. Benjamin Mildmay, Earl Fitzwalter, Viscount Harwich, Baron Fitzwalter, Egremont, Burnham, and Ratcliff, Lord Lieut. and Custos Rotulorum of Essex, and one of his majesty's privy council, aged 87.

March 1. Sir Edward Blacket, Bart. aged 73, at Hexham.

2. Mr Philips at Ipswich; leaving his fortune of near 100,000*l.* to a poor labouring man. At his death there was a ballance of 16,000*l.* due to him at the Bank, which has lain 23 years without interest. By his will he ordered his body to be buried next to an old servant of his, who died 7 years ago.

Robert Watson, M. D. fellow of the royal college of physicians, and of the royal society. In him the publick has lost a real scholar, an excellent physician, an admirable philosopher, & in every consideration a most worthy person.

9. Thomas Brereton Salusbury, Esq; member for Liverpool.

12. Serjeant Girdler, senior serjeant at law.

14. Samuel Littlemore, Esq; clerk of the journals of the house of commons.

21. Rt Hon. John Earl of Wemyss. He has left his whole estate to his youngest son.

26. Gilbert West, Esq; brother to Admiral West, one of the clerks of the Privy Council, and paymaster to Chelsea college; also well known for his writings, particularly on the Resurrection, for which the University of Oxford complimented him with the degree of doctor of laws.

28. Charles Cholmondley of Vale Royal, in Cheshire, Esq; he has represented that county in eight parliaments.

Rev. Mr Stephen Duck, at Reading.

April 3. Rt Hon. Alexander Earl of Kelly, at Kelly, Fifeshire; succeeded in honour and estate by his eldest son Lord Pittenweem.

4. Sir Robert Cornwallis, Bt. It is remarkable that a few days before this gentleman's illness, he foretold, that he should soon be taken ill, and that his cousin, Gen. Cornwallis, and another gentleman of his acquaintance, would also be taken ill at the same time, and that they should all die within a short space of each other. The general was accordingly taken ill, as Sir Robert had predicted, and not knowing what he had said concerning their illness and death, told his friends to the same purport. The two cousins died within a few minutes of one another. The gentleman their friend was taken ill about the same time, but is recovered.

15. Sir Wm Lowther, Bart. Knt of the shire for Cumberland, and Lieut. and Custos Rot. of Westmoreland; by whose death an estate of 14,000*l.* per Ann. comes to Sir Ja. Lowther of Lowther Hall, Westmoreland, Bt. pursuant to the will of the late Sir James Lowther of Whitehaven.

Ja. Vernon, Esq; a commissioner of Excise.

16. Peter Burrell, Esq; member for Dover, and sub-governor of the South Sea company.

May 3. Sir Wm Cowper, Bart.

Baron Diemar, who resided here in a publick character from the landgrave of Hesse Cassel.

6. Sir Edward Leighton of Loton, in Shropshire, Bart. aged 74.

*List of Motions for the Year 1756.*

*From the London Gazette.*

*Whiteball, Jan 13.* THE king has been pleased to grant to Lord Sandys the offices of warden and justice in eyre of all his majesty's forests, &c. on this side Trent, in room of The D. of Leeds, admitted into the place of comptroller of his majesty's household, in room of Sir George Lyttleton.

Rt Hon. George Doddington, Esq; appointed treasurer of the navy, in room of George Grenville, Esq;

Lord Hobart, — comptroller of the household, in room of the Earl of Hillsborough.

*Admiralty Office, Jan. 31.* The king has been pleased to appoint the following persons to be field officers, to 30 additional companies of marines to be forthwith raised, viz. James Paterfon, Colonel. Rich. Bendyshe, Lieut. Col. Hector Boifron, John Mackenzie, John Purcell Kempe, and Samuel Boucher, Majors.

*St James's, Feb. 17.* His majesty in council was pleased to appoint John, Earl of Loudon, General and Governor in Chief of his majesty's colony of Virginia.

— to appoint Charles Pinfold, Esq; Captain Gen. and Governor in Chief of Barbadoes.

— to appoint Henry Moore, Esq; Lieut. Governor of Jamaica.

*Whiteball, March 20.* The king has been pleased to create the Rt Hon. Henry Boyle, Esq; a Baron, Viscount, and Earl, of the kingdom of Ireland, by the name, stile, and title of Baron of Castle Martyr, Viscount of Bandon, in the county of Cork, and Earl of Shannon.

Rt Hon. Earl of Loudoun, Major General of his majesty's forces, appointed General and Commander in Chief of all his majesty's forces in America.

*Whiteball, April 6.* The king has been pleased to appoint the Rt Hon. the Earl of Pembroke, Lieut. and Custos Rot. of Wiltshire.

— to appoint Rt Hon. the Earl of Rochford, Lieut. and Custos Rotulorum of Essex.

— to appoint Digby Dent, Esq; a commissioner of the navy, in room of Arthur Scot, dec.

*Whiteball, April 13.* Andrew Mitchel, Esq; [member for Inverarie, Elgin, &c.] appointed his majesty's minister to the king of Prussia.

*Whiteball, April 17.* The king has been pleased to order a conge d'elire to the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of Rochester, for electing a Bishop of that See, void by the death of Dr Joseph Wilcox, and likewise a letter, recommending the Rt Rev. father in God, Dr Zachary Pearce, Bishop of Bangor, to be by them chosen Bishop of the See of Rochester.

— also to grant unto the said Rt Rev. Dr Zachary Pearce, the deanery of the collegiate church of St Peter, Westminster, void by the death of Dr Joseph Wilcocks, Bishop of Rochester, and dean of the said collegiate church.

*Whiteball, April 24.* Sir John Pennigton, Bt. appointed Lt. and Custos R. of Westmoreland.

Robert Rich, Esq; — governor of Londonderry and Culmore fort, in Ireland, in room of Lieut. Gen. Henry Cornwall, dec.

The king has been pleased to appoint the Rt Hon. the E. of Halifax, Andrew Stone, James

Ofwald, Tho. Pelham, John Talbot, Soames Jennyns, and Richard Rigby, Esqrs, together with Wm Gerrard Hamilton, Esq; to be commissioners for Trade and Plantations.

— to appoint Wm Burton, John Orlebar, Augustine Earle, John Wyndham Bowyer, Wm Mellish, Fred. Frankland, David Papillon, jun. and Wm Cayley, Esqrs, together with Tho. Farrington, Esq; in room of Ja. Vernon, Esq; to be commissioners of the Excise.

— to appoint Edw. Young, Henry Kelfall, Chr. Rigby, Richard Frankland, and John Trenchard, Esq; together with John Fane, Esq; in room of Joseph Richardson, Esq; to be commissioners for taxes.

— to grant unto John Offley, Esq; the office of keeper of his majesty's private roads, gates, and bridges, and of conductor or guide to his majesty in his royal progresses, in room of Thomas Ripley, Esq;

— to grant unto Tho. Wynne, Esq; the office of auditor of his majesty's revenue within the counties of Monmouth, Anglesey, Brecknock, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Glamorgan, Merioneth, Montgomery, Pembroke, and Radnor, in room of Tho. Farrington, Esq;

*Whiteball, April 27.* The king has been pleased to grant unto Tho. Pakenham, Esq; of the county of Longford, in the kingdom of Ireland, the dignity of a Baron of the said kingdom, by the name, stile, and title, of Baron Longford, in the said county of Longford.

— to grant unto Harvey Morres, Esq; of the C. of Kilkenny, in the kingdom of Ireland, the dignity of a Baron of that kingdom, by the name, stile, and title, of Baron Mount Morres, of Castle Morres, in the said Co. of Kilkenny.

— to grant unto John Maxwell, Esq; of the C. of Cavan, in the kingdom of Ireland, the dignity of a Baron of that kingdom, by the name, stile, and title of Baron Farnham, in the said county of Cavan

— to grant unto Joseph Leeson, Esq; of the Co. of Wicklow, in the kingdom of Ireland, the dignity of a Baron of that kingdom, by the name, stile, and title, of Baron Rufsborough, in the said county of Wicklow.

*Dublin, April 27.* Rt Hon. John Ponsonby, Esq; elected speaker of the House of Commons in Ireland.

*Whiteball, May 1.* The king has been pleased to grant unto Matthew White of Blagdon, in Northumberland, Esq; and his heirs male, and in default of such issue, to the heirs male of Elizabeth, sister to the said Matthew White, now the wife of Matthew Ridley of Heaton, in Northumberland, Esq; the dignity of a Baronet of Great Britain.

*Whiteball, April 6.* By his majesty's command, Wm Blair, Esq; was sworn one of the clerks of the Privy Council in Ordinary; and Stephen Cottrell, Esq; one of the clerks of the Privy Council in Extraordinary.

*Whiteball, May 8.* The king has been pleased to appoint Richard Whatley, Esq; Consul General at Tetuan, in the dominions of the emperor of Morocco, in room of William Petcrew, Esq; deceased.

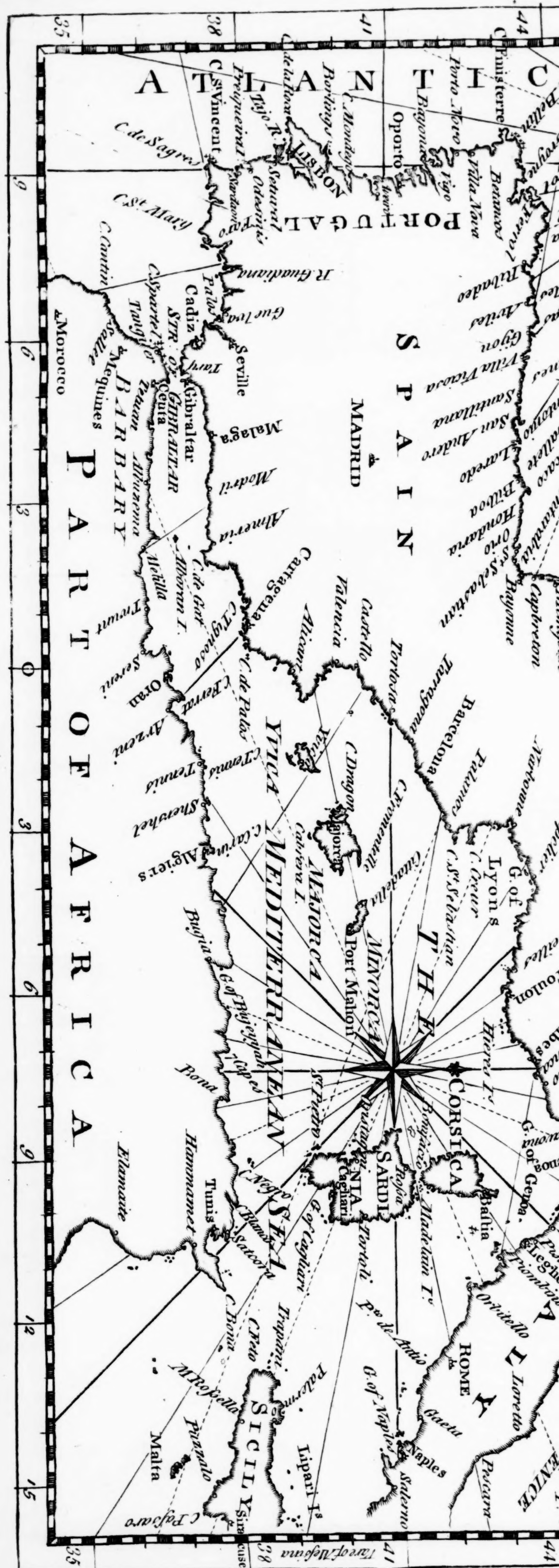
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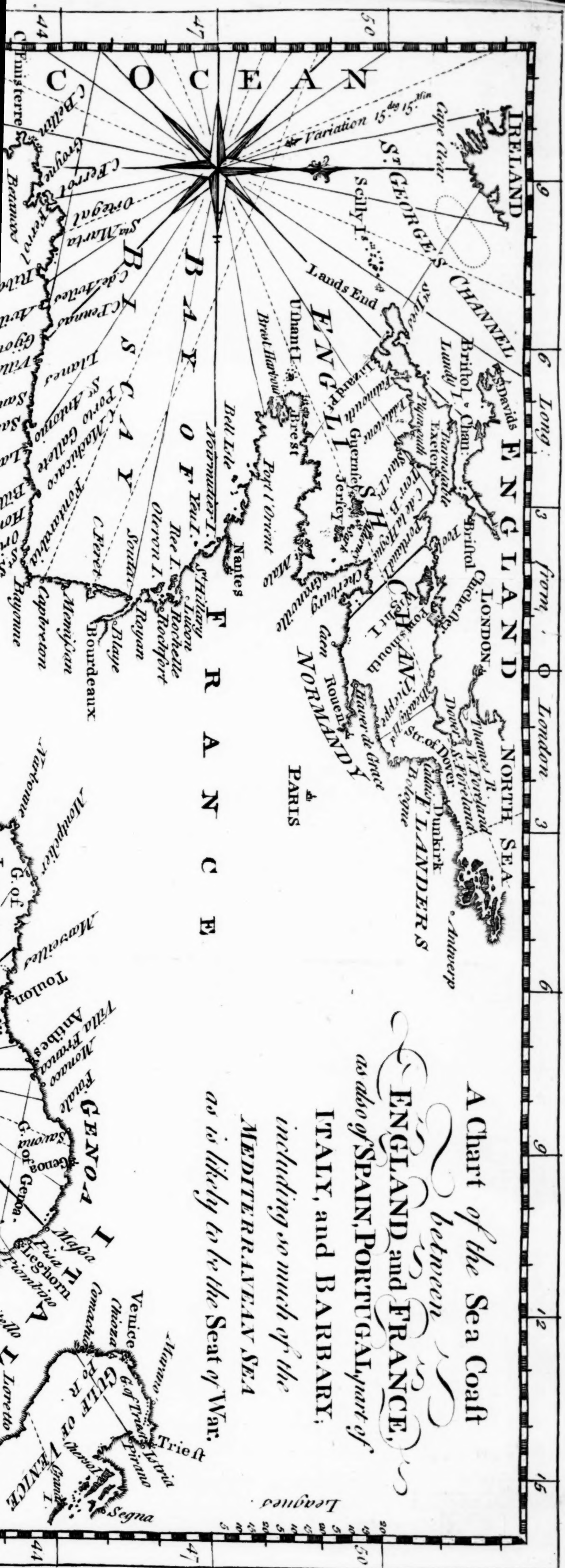
# EACH DAY'S Price of STOCKS from the 15th of APRIL to the 14th of MAY 1756.

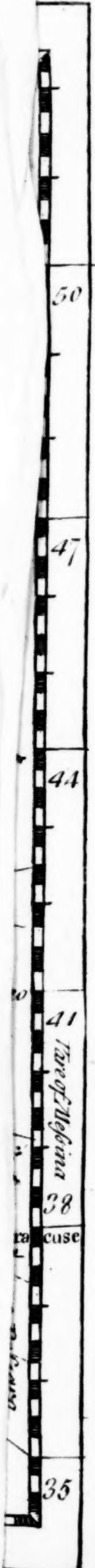
Day	BANK E. India Stock.	South Sea S. Sea An. 3 1/2 A. 1st S. 3 A. 2d Sun new 1st S. 2d Subscr. 1st Subscr. 2d Subscr.	Ba. An. 3 1/2 A. 1st S. 3 A. 2d Sun new 1st S. 2d Subscr. 1st Subscr. 2d Subscr.	Cen's.	India An. 3 1/2 A. 1st S. 3 A. 2d Sun new 1st S. 2d Subscr. 1st Subscr. 2d Subscr.	3per Cent. An. 1751 3per Cent. An. 1756.	Bank B. Cir. pre In. Bonds. 3 1/2 A. 1st S. 3 A. 2d Sun new 1st S. 2d Subscr. 1st Subscr. 2d Subscr.	Lot Tick prem.	Wind at DEAL.
15	118	142	91 1/2	90 1/2	88 1/2	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	Eaft.
16	118 1/2		91 1/2	90 1/2	89	90 1/2	28s 29	1 Do	SW
17			91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 6	SSW
18	Sunday								WS W
19			91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	Eaft.
20	118 1/2	102 1/2	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	Do	SSE
21			91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	Do	WNW
22	118 1/2	142	91 1/2	90 1/2	88 1/2	90 1/2	28s 29	Do	NW
23		142	91 1/2	90 1/2	88 1/2	90 1/2	28s 29	Do	WS W
24		142	91 1/2	90 1/2	88 1/2	90 1/2	28s 29	Do	NW
25	Sunday								Wb. S
26			91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	S W
27	118 1/2	142 1/2	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	N. by W.
28	118 1/2		91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	South
29	118 1/2		91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 Do	N E
30	118 1/2	142	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 Do	N by E
1	118 1/2		91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 Do	NNW
2	Sunday								SW
3	118	142	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	NNW
4		142	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 8 6	SW
5	118		91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	W. ft
6	118		91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	S W
7		141	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	Do
8		141	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 9 0	S SW
9	Sunday								S W
10		140	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 8 0	NNW
11	117 1/2	140	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 8 0	N. E. by N
12			91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 8 0	S W
13	117 1/2	140	91 1/2	90 1/2	90	90 1/2	28s 29	1 7 6	W. ft
14									W. ft

MARK LANE.	Banngtroke.	Reaung.	Farnham.	Henley.	Guildford.	Warminster.	Devizes.	Gloucester.	Birmingham.	London.
Wheat 25 to 29s Qu	08l 15s load	8109s load	08l 00s load	08l 15s load	08l 10s load	38sto 44qu	34s to 40qu	5s 6d. buhl	4s. 9d. buhl.	Wh. Peck Loaf 22d
Barley 12s to 15s	17s to 19qr	20s to 00qr	17s to 18qr	15s to 18qr	14s to 17	17s to 21	17s to 19	3s od	3s. 8d.	Hops l. s. load
Oats 11s to 13s 6d	13s to 16 od	16s to 19	15s to 16s	13s to 17	13sto 16 6d	12sto 16	13s to 16	1s 8d to 2s	2s 3d.	Hay 2l. 14s. load
Beans 14s to 15 od	25s to 26 cd	00s to 00	26s to 27	22s to 24	24s to 26	22s to 32	21s to 28	2s to 25 9d	3s. 4d.	Coals 40s per Cha

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